Juvenile Migration: Rotary Screw Trap Operations 2024

Gonzalo Mendez

July 2024 PGE Fisheries Workshop





Outline

Objectives

Methods

Results







OBJECTIVE 1: Estimate the number of smolts entering Lake Billy Chinook (LBC) from each tributary.

OBJECTIVE 2: Determine the timing and numbers of smolts emigrating from Lake Billy Chinook.

Objective 3: Determine the percentage of fish entering Lake Billy Chinook that are successfully captured at the SWW.

OBJECTIVE 4: Determine travel times and relative survival of each species to the mouth of the Deschutes River and Bonneville Dam.





Methods

Estimate natural production of spring Chinook smolts

- Capture, identify & count
- PIT tag (naturally spawned- intact)

Using previously estimated trap efficiency

- Calculate tributary production (Obj. 1) (Carlson et. al. 1998)
- Calculate travel time to SWW (Obj. 2)

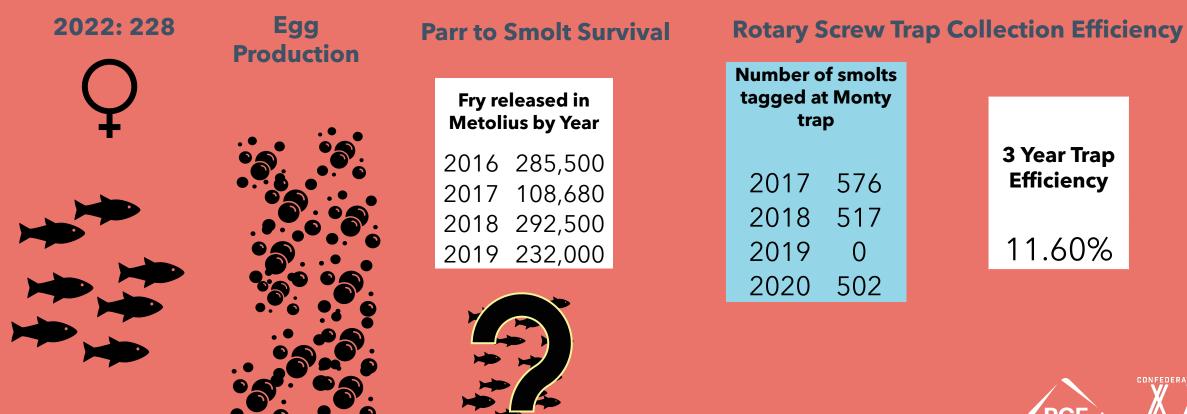
Additional effort

• ID and count all other fish collected





Methods: Conceptual model related to smolt collection at Monty Trap





Monty screw trap results

Trap operated:

- February 13 May 5, 2024
- Days in the field: 83
- Days operated :71
- Three pre-emptive shutdowns
- One mechanical failure
- Total of 1,639 hours

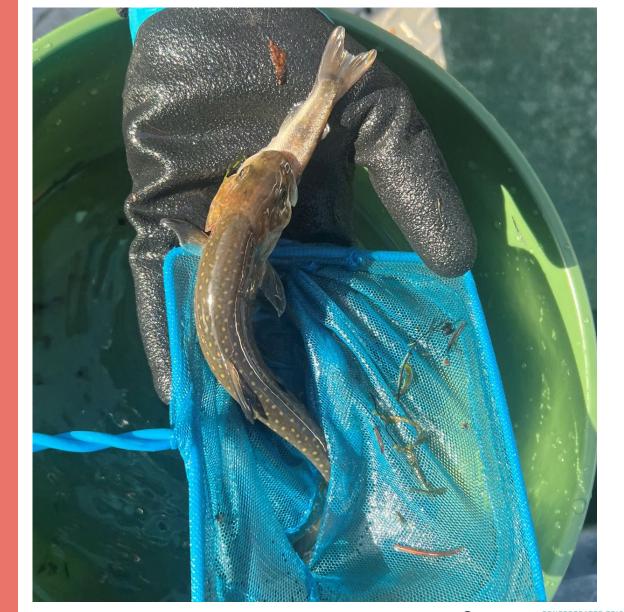






Monty screw trap results

- **Captured:**
- Wild Chinook 103 → PIT tagged 101
- HR Chinook 48
- Bull trout 589
- **Other species:**
- Sockeye fry 491
- Red band trout 1
- Mountain whitefish 104

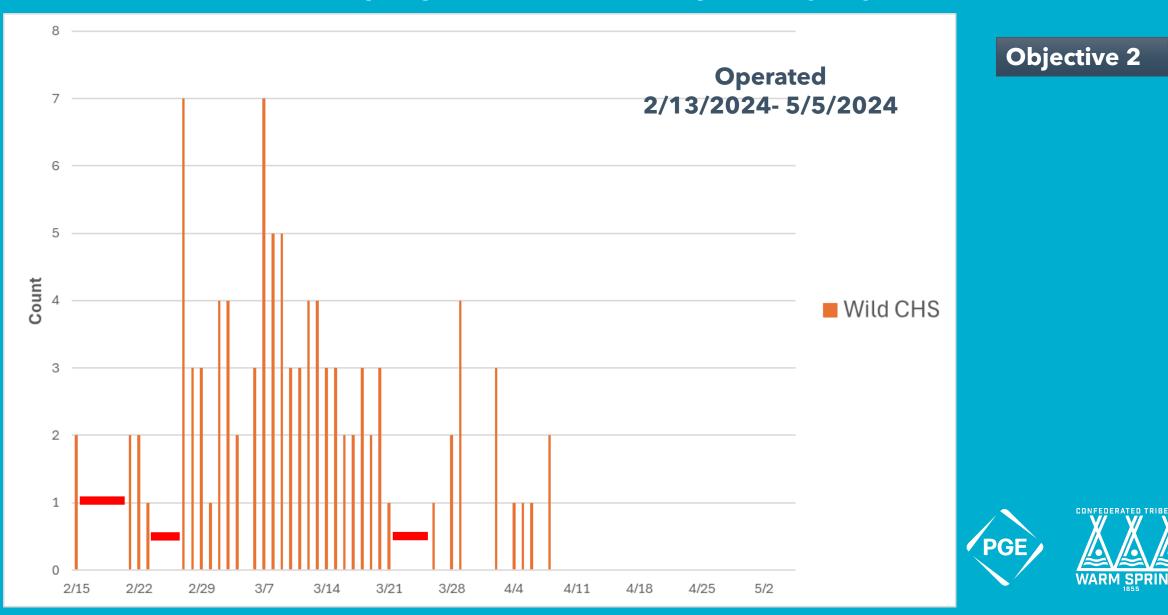




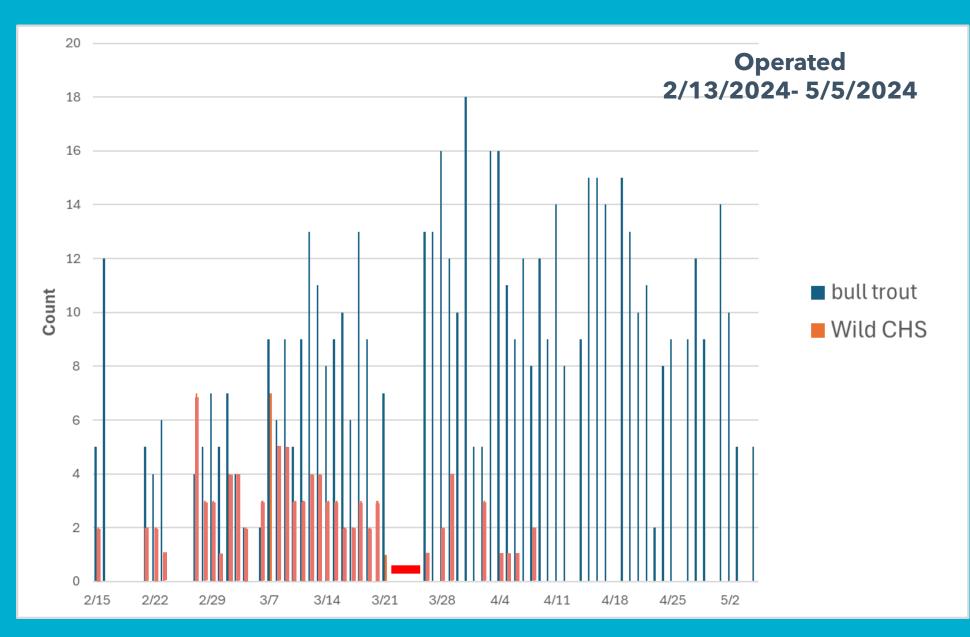


Determine the timing of smolts emigrating from Lake Billy Chinook;

Natural Production spring Chinook (n=103) captured by day

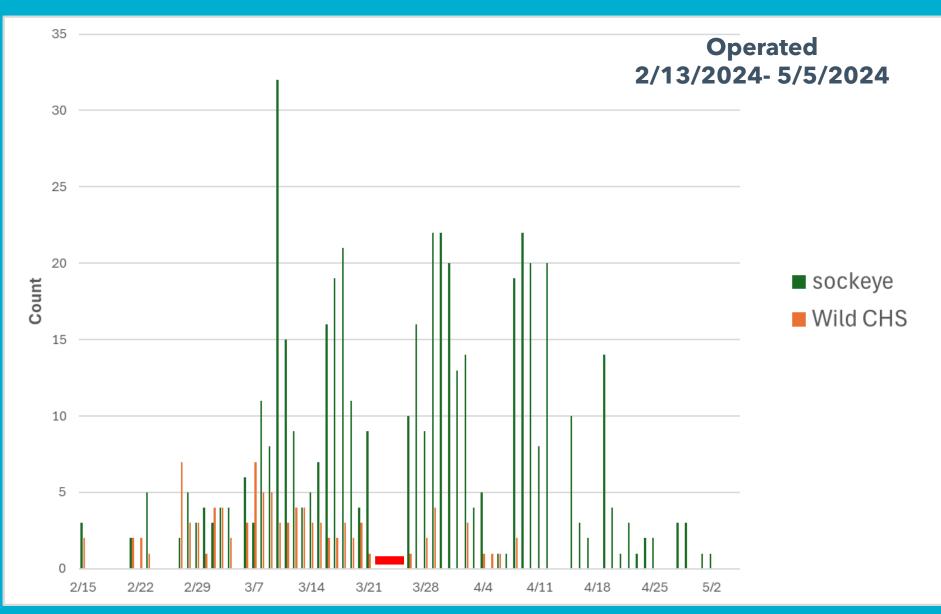


Bull trout and Chinook smolts captured by day





Sockeye fry and Chinook smolts captured by day





Historic performance of Monty Trap



Fry released in Metolius by year	Number of smolts tagged at Monty trap		Trap efficiency, based trap recaps
2016 285,500	2017	576	10.80%
2017 108,680	2018	517	13.10%
2018 292,500	2019	0	
2019 232,000	2020	502	11%

3-Year Trap Efficiency

11.60%



Preliminary estimate of spring Chinook natural production entering Lake Billy Chinook (Metolius River)

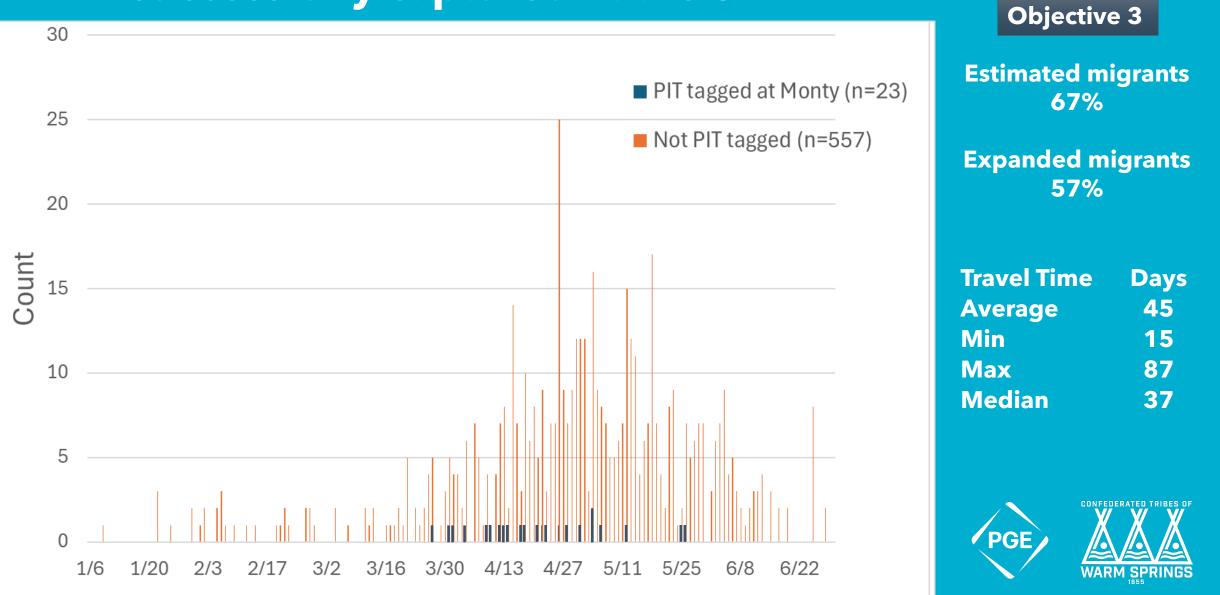
Objective 1

	# Recap		Estimated Migrants	Trapping Hours	Potential Trapping Hours	Expanded Migrants
RST						giante
Predicted	11	11%	867	1639	1943	1028

Source Carlson et. al. 1998



Percentage of fish entering Lake Billy Chinook successfully captured at the SWW



How does our estimate compare to previous results?



Year	Wild Chinook	Naturally reared Chinook	Hatchery reared Chinook	LBC released Chinook
2018		32%		38%
2019				40%
2020		22%	14%	26%
2021			27%	44%
2022			34%	43%
2023				43%
2024	67% (Est.)			38%
2024	57% (Exp.)			



Questions?

Thank you!

Micah Bennett Kelli Iddings Amber Herman Ace Fairchild-Gregory Alex de los Rios Sarah Ross Ayden Roth Bree Belardinelli PGE Maintenance Crew Becky Burchell Megan Hill Nancy Doran



Mean daily flow f³/s at Monty Camp gage for years used to calculate trap efficiency(source USGS)

