

Monthly Fish Passage Report

March 2026

Adult Fish Passage

In March, the Pelton Trap captured 106 adult summer steelhead. This group included fifteen Round Butte Hatchery origin, 32 out-of-basin strays, 45 unmarked fish native to the lower Deschutes, and fourteen fish with a left or right maxillary clip. Table 1 provides details on fish released into the Deschutes Basin. In accordance with guidance from co-managers (ODFW and CTWSRO), all of the Round Butte Hatchery-origin fish were released into the upper basin. The total released into the upper basin is 897 adults (LM/RM and excess broodstock).

Other species encountered at the trap in March included 309 Rainbow Trout, six largescale suckers, one Bridgelip sucker, and one Bull Trout all released into the lower Deschutes River.

Table 1. Anadromous and Bull Trout adults collected at the Pelton Fish Trap.

Lower Deschutes Releases			Upper Deschutes Releases					
Species	LDR ^a	Run Total	Wild ^b	LM ^c	Excess RBH ^d	Mortality	Monthly Total	Run Total
Summer Steelhead ^e	45	208	1	13	15	0	29	897
Spring Chinook	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sockeye	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0
Bull Trout	1	4	0	-	-	0	0	3
Fall Chinook	0	872	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coho	0	30	-	-	-	-	-	-

a. (LDR) Lower Deschutes River release. **b. (Wild)** Naturally produced upper Deschutes basin fish, captured as smolts at the SWW and released into the lower Deschutes River. **c. (LM)** Hatchery released smolts captured at the SWW, released into the lower Deschutes River and returned to the Pelton Trap as adults. **d.** Excess brood stock not collected for Round Butte hatchery program. **e.** Collection is from July 2025 - April 2026.

Juvenile Fish Passage

In March 2026, the SWW captured 27,572 fish from eleven different species. We collected 22,907 sockeye, 120 spring Chinook, 202 steelhead smolts and fifteen juvenile Bull Trout (<10") all released into the lower Deschutes River. Also captured were thirteen adult unspawned steelhead all released back into Lake Billy Chinook and five steelhead kelts released into the lower Deschutes River. In accordance from the co-managers (ODFW and CTWSRO), only post-spawn female adults will be released downstream as kelts. Chinook, steelhead and kokanee fry are not reported in this report and recycled back into LBC.

Table 2. Species, number and distribution of fish collected at the SWW.

Species	LBC	LDR ¹ Wild ²	LDR ¹ LM ³	Mortality Wild	Mortality LM ³	Euthanized	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
Sockeye		22,907		327			23,234	23,265
Spring Chinook		89	31				120	120
Steelhead (smolts)		13	189		8		210	213
Steelhead (Adults/Kelts)	13		5				18	22
Bull Trout	111	15		1			127	132
Chiselmouth	1						1	1
Kokanee Adult	3,655			112			3,767	3,792
Kokanee Juvenile							0	60
Longnose Dace							0	0
Mountain Whitefish	3						3	3
Northern Pikeminnow							0	0
Rainbow Trout	4						4	4
Sucker (multiple species)							0	0

Non-Native Species

Bluegill	--	--	--	--	--	41	41	42
Brook Trout	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0
Brown Bullhead	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0
Brown Trout	--	--	--	--	--	17	17	18
Three-spined Stickleback	--	--	--	--	--	44	44	44
Largemouth Bass	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0
Smallmouth Bass	--	--	--	--	--	3	3	3

¹(LDR) Lower Deschutes River release. ²(Wild) Naturally produced smolt captured at the SWW and released into the lower Deschutes River. ³(LM) Hatchery released smolt captured at the SWW and released into the lower Deschutes River.

All monthly data is provisional and subject to change



Table 3. Number of right maxillary and left maxillary spring Chinook and summer steelhead smolts captured at the SWW and released into the lower Deschutes River.

Species	Wild	LM	Total
Spring Chinook	89	31	120
Summer Steelhead	13	191	204

Table 4 reflects cumulative survival during 2026. We continue to take all Bull Trout, spring Chinook and summer steelhead to ODFW pathology, along with requested numbers of kokanee.

Table 4. Cumulative survival for key species in 2026 at the SWW.

Species	Adults	Juvenile/Smolts
Bull Trout	99.1%	94.7%
Spring Chinook	-	100%
Sockeye	-	98.6%
Summer Steelhead	100%	95.8%
Kokanee (excludes fry)	96.9%	98.3%
Rainbow Trout	100%	-