

CALFED Operations Group
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Winter-run chinook salmon:

Preliminary reports from the annual aerial redd surveys conducted in the upper Sacramento River indicate the number of winter-run chinook spawning has more than doubled this year compared to the same time period last year (1336 redds vs 576 redds respectively, as of 7/13). One redd was reported observed downstream of Red Bluff Diversion Dam (RBDD), but the percentage of redds below the Jelly's Ferry compliance point is very low (< 2%). The Bureau of Reclamation has been able to meet the 56°F temperature requirement as specified in the winter-run biological opinion.

Steelhead and Spring-run Chinook:

There have been no salmon or steelhead reported this month at either of the Fish Salvage Facilities.

Efforts are underway to coordinate a steelhead monitoring program in the Central Valley this year to comply with the CDFG-Fishery Management and Evaluation Plan for Steelhead and the OCAP biological opinion issued May 8th for steelhead and spring-run chinook. This monitoring is needed to establish trends in steelhead population abundance since the RBDD stopped counting adults in 1993.

On the American River, the number of juvenile steelhead reported in snorkel surveys, seining and rotary screw trapping has significantly declined following an increase in water temperatures this month. The American River Operations Group (AROG) is working on maintaining temperatures in the lower river for steelhead. The second set of shutters (middle set) on Folsom Dam were pulled this week for temperature control. A steelhead monitoring program initiated last month by CDFG has been hampered due to low number of juveniles captured for tagging and study purposes.