

INTERMOUNTAIN RESEARCH STATION  
Boise, Idaho

MEMORANDUM

October 9, 1996

TO: Pete Hassemer IDFG Nampa, Sharon Kiefer IDFG Boise, Don Anderson IDFG McCall, Mike Larkin IDFG Salmon, Dave Burns Payette NF, Leon Jadowski Challis NF, Mark Moulton Sawtooth NF, Bruce Smith Salmon NF, Tim Burton Boise NF, Mike Blenden Nez Perce Tribe

FROM: Russ Thurow

Subject: 1996 MFSR Chinook Salmon redd counts summary

Here is a summary of the surveys we completed in 1996 as part of the chinook salmon spatial habitat analysis project. Most of the reaches were surveyed using low-level helicopter flights from Sept 8-11. We also completed ground-based surveys in reaches of the Big, Camas, Marsh, Loon, and Rapid River drainages from Sept. 16-20. Ground-based surveys were completed in areas I could not adequately survey from the air.

We observed more redds in 1996 as compared to 1995, although total counts remained extremely low and several areas had no redds. We did observe redds outside of traditional index areas (one redd in Pistol Cr., for example), but most redds were within the index areas.

IDFG will provide me with a summary of their 1996 chinook salmon index area counts. I would appreciate a summary of any other USDA-Forest Service or Tribal surveys that were completed in the MFSR tributaries in 1996.

AREA SURVEYED, REDDS AND FISH OBSERVED BY MAJOR AREA

1. Mainstem MFSR

Confluence of Big Cr. to Big Hole:  
One redd observed upstream from Sulphur Cr.

2. Bear Valley

Mouth to Fir Cr: 2 redds  
Fir Cr. to Dredge site: 17 redds  
Elk Cr, mouth to headwaters: 17 redds

3. Big

Mouth to Monumental Cr +Rush Cr +Cave Cr: 5 redds, 5 live fish  
Monumental Cr, mouth to Roosevelt + Snowslide + West Fk: 0 redds  
Monumental to Jacobs Ladder: 1 redd

4. Camas

Mouth to Hammer Cr: 0 redds  
Yellowjacket Cr, mouth to Guard St: 0 redds  
Hammer Cr to West Fk: 3 redds, 1 live fish  
West F, mouth to Pole Cr + lower Silver Cr: 0 redds

West Fk to Castle Cr: 1 redd  
Castle Cr to Fly Cr: 1 redd

5. Indian

Mouth to Papoose Cr.: 0 redds

6. Loon

Mouth to Biggs Ranch: 0 redds  
Biggs Ranch to Falconberry: 1 redd  
Falconberry to Cabin Cr: 1 redd, 1 live fish  
Cabin Cr to Warm Springs: 0 redds  
Warm Springs, mouth to Parker mill: 1 redd  
Warm Springs to Mayfield Cr: 0 redds  
Mayfield Cr, East and West Fks: 1 redd  
Loon upstream from Mayfield: 1 redd

7. Marble

Mouth to Cornish Cr.: 1 redd

8. Marsh

Mouth to Beaver Cr: 2 redds  
Beaver Cr, mouth to headwaters: 1 redd  
Beaver Cr to Knapp Cr: 4 redds  
Knapp Cr, mouth to headwaters: 0 redds  
Marsh upstream from Knapp: 0 redds  
We did not count Capehorn Cr

9. Pistol

Mouth to Little Pistol: 0 redds  
Little Pistol, mouth to Springfield: 0 redds  
Pistol upstream from Little Pistol: 1 redd

10. Rapid River

Mouth to Bernard Cr: 1 redd

11. Sheep

Mouth to canyon: 0 redds

12. Sulphur

Mouth to 3 km upstream from the North Fork: 11 redds

13. Wilson

Mouth to Hoodoo Meadows Trailhead: 0 redds