## 2006 BRULE RIVER FALL FISHWAY UPDATE

A total of 12,653 trout and salmon were counted as they migrated upstream through the lamprey barrier/fishway during the fall review period from July 2nd through December 2nd. Little rain throughout the fall produced unusually crystal clear water conditions forcing much of the run to move upstream during the nighttime period (occasional fall rains typically provide stained water flow out of the headwater bogs). An unseasonable cold snap during the latter part of the second week in October, extending into the following week, caused a water temperature drop which significantly slowed the run during that period. The steelhead population remains very healthy with the fall portion of the run comprised of 7,290 fish and peak movement during the last week of September. This fall's run of jack size fish (i.e. fish that return a year or two earlier than most trout or salmon) was again plentiful with about 1,350 returning from the 2004 year class. This along with last years exceptionally abundant jack return bode well for the near future of the steelhead fishery. The brown trout run of 3,167 peaked during the first week of August. Coho salmon return this year was 1,951 . Other salmonids counted included 199 chinook salmon, 32 pink salmon, eight coastal brook trout, four splake, and two lake trout.

| Year | Brown <br> Trout | Chinook <br> Salmon | Coho <br> Salmon | Steelhead <br> Fall | Steelhead <br> Spring | Steelhead <br> Total | Estimated <br> Stocked <br> Steelhead |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 3 - 0 4}$ | 3871 | 113 | 1087 | 8251 | 1997 | 10248 | 2026 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 4 - 0 5}$ | 2941 | 146 | 1001 | 7635 | 1445 | 9080 | 1698 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 5 - 0 6}$ | 3265 | 161 | 3205 | 9260 | 990 | 10250 | 1491 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 6 - 0 7}$ | 3167 | 199 | 1951 | 7290 | --- | --- | 486 |

STEELHEAD


BROWN


COHO


