



**State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

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To: All Interested Groups/DNR Staff

From: Cheryl Peterson – WDNR Lake Michigan Work Unit, Milwaukee

Subject: Spring 2010 Root River Weir Summary

The Root River Steelhead Facility (RRSF) was in operation for 3 processing dates during the spring 2010 migration. We were able to capture and process 431 steelhead between March 19 and April 14. This was not a strong return to RRSF, but significant numbers of fish were able to bypass the facility during high water events right after ice out and again after considerable rainfall.

In conjunction with the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility in Kewaunee, we met our egg collection quotas for Chambers Creek and Ganaraska strains of steelhead. Our biological sampling goals were fulfilled, and fish health sampling was conducted. Fish sacrificed for health checks were donated to the Racine County Food Bank for local distribution.

The Spring 2010 RRSF steelhead effort is summarized below.

Captured	Spawned	Eggs Taken	Passed Upstream
431	218 total (119 Chambers and 99 Ganaraska)	321,000 Chambers 261,000 Ganaraska	363

Due to the constraints placed on the hatchery systems by Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), the Skamania contribution to the Lake Michigan steelhead program has been halted. There has been no stocking of this strain since 2008, but the overall lakewide steelhead quotas were made up of additional Chambers Creek and Ganaraska strains. We continue to ask for your cooperation and vigilance, especially in the area of boat, trailer and gear disinfection and bait transport issues as you travel from Lake Michigan to inland waters.

Wisconsin DNR would like to acknowledge the support of Salmon Unlimited in keeping the Root River Steelhead Facility operational. Special thanks also go out to Mary Lee Hetland and Craig Bender for opening and closing the viewing window at the facility.

For additional Lake Michigan fisheries information, please visit our website: [dnr.wi.gov/fish/lakemich](http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/lakemich)  
For fishing information, please call our 24-hour hotline at (414) 382-7920.

We will resume operations at the weir in the fall.