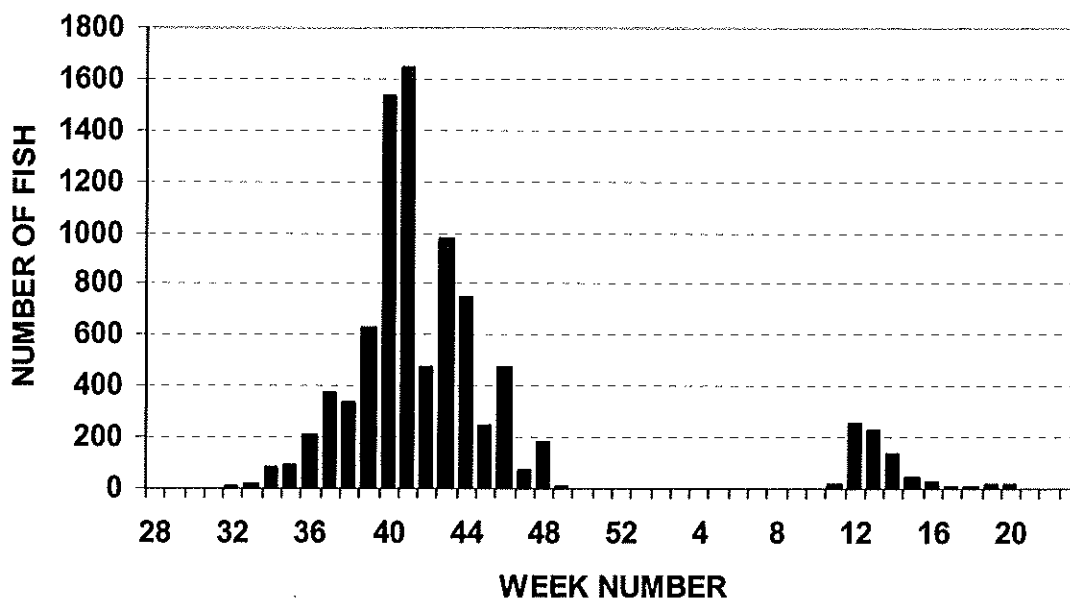


2009 - 2010 Brule Steelhead Run



The graph above displays the 2009 – 2010 weekly steelhead passage at the Brule River lamprey barrier/fish way. The fall peak occurred during the second week of October (week 41) while the spring peak took place in the third week of March (week 12). This year’s steelhead exhibited excellent condition (fatter than normal), most likely due to abundant forage in Lake Superior (i.e. lake herring) during the summer of 2009.

The table below displays recent run totals. A combined fall and spring steelhead total of 8,891 includes 8,795 wild fish and 96 fin-clipped hatchery fish (stocking experiment ended in 2001). The 22 year historical average wild run is 6,352. This years 8,795 wild return sets a new record (smallest wild run of 3,005 in 1996 - 1997). The run was dominated by five and six year old fish which made up about 69% of the total. We expect that next years return will drop down closer to the historical average as these two year classes age (unless a greater than average number of young fish return).

	FALL	SPRING	TOTAL	WILD PORTION
2003-04	8251	1997	10248	8222
2004-05	7635	1445	9080	7382
2005-06	9260	990	10250	8759
2006-07	7290	1582	8872	8162
2007-08	6345	1215	7560	7282
2008-09	6640	1096	7736	7599
2009-10	8130	761	8891	8795