Harvest, Age, and Size at Age of Chinook and Coho Salmon at Strawberry Creek Weir and Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility Fall 2003

By Paul Peeters and Ken Royseck

ABSTRACT

Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* harvest at Strawberry Creek Weir (SCW) dropped to 6,086 in the fall of 2003 (down 45% from the record harvest in 2002) with an estimated weight of 81,551 pounds. Low lake level and low flow in Strawberry Creek necessitated the use of the pipeline in fall 2003. For a fourth consecutive year, the pipeline functioned as designed and delivered enough water to Strawberry Creek to attract Chinook salmon and facilitate their movement up Strawberry Creek and into the pond. Almost the entire quota of Chinook salmon eggs for use in Wisconsin’s hatcheries (3.4 million) was collected from SCW. A late season pump failure required a late run harvest of Chinook gametes from Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility (BAFF) to maintain genetic diversity.

The estimated age composition of the entire Chinook harvest at SCW consisted of six percent age 1+, 45 percent age 2+, 48 percent age 3+, and one percent age 4+ salmon. The average, standard, and trophy weights of Chinook salmon returning to SCW in the fall of 2003 were all down from the weights observed in the previous year.

Heads from a total of 1,614 adipose clipped Chinook were recovered at SCW during the fall of 2003, down from a record of 3,684 in the fall of 2002. The decrease in adipose clipped Chinook returning to SCW was anticipated due to a decrease in the number of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) coded wire tag (CWT) Chinook at large. Of the 1,614 adipose clipped Chinook examined, a total of 1,581 CWTs were successfully extracted from the adipose clipped fish. All but two of the recovered CWTs were from Chinook released at SCW. The two strays were CWT Chinook from Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) releases.

In the marking technique study, after four years of recovery, it is obvious that the initial hope, that photonic tagging can be used as an instant recognition, non-lethal technique of marking and recognizing study fish, is not going to happen. The photonic marking technique may have some valid fisheries application for marking fish. We believe that neither the photonic marking of Chinook fingerlings, or the use of a combination ARV or ALV clips were overly detrimental to the subsequent recovery of age 1+ through age 4+ Chinook at SCW. Results from the marking technique study support using fin clips for Chinook marking in lieu of CWTs.

In the spring of 2003 an estimated 152,000 Chinook fingerlings were successfully released from the SCW pond. This included an estimated 28,000 ARV clipped fingerlings. The number of chinook released from SCW in 2003 represents an approximate 25 percent decrease in the number of fingerlings imprinted at SCW. This was a premeditated effort to decrease the number of adult salmon returning to SCW. Over the last several years, since installation and use of the pipeline, the size of the run of adult salmon to SCW has strained the ability of the facility to safely handle the number of fish returning.
This was the first year since 1982 that no CWT fingerlings were released at SCW. The CWT known aged Chinook stocked at SCW have been an important component of our Lake Michigan fisheries management program. In 2003 the fingerlings were stocked with a fin clip instead of a CWT to reduce the cost of marking and evaluating the marked fish upon their return. A marking technique study conducted at SCW and discussed later in this report supported the shift from CWT to fin clipping as an acceptable marking technique.

A total of 1,197 Chinook salmon were captured and processed at BAFF in the fall of 2003 and an unknown number of Chinook were allowed to swim past the BAFF through the bypass gates. The number of Chinook harvested is below the 14 year average of 1,770 since records have been kept but is not indicative of the actual size of the run. A Chinook gamete harvest did occur at BAFF on October 23rd in response to an October 15th pump failure at SCW. By October 23rd, the WDNR had enough Chinook gametes harvested to meet our hatchery needs but there was an interest in collecting gametes from throughout the entire span of the Chinook run and as a result approximately 0.18 million eggs were collected.

During the fall of 2003, a total of 266 Coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* were captured at BAFF. The Coho return was well below the 14 year average (1990-2003) of 1,630. WDNR personnel collected approximately 0.156 million Coho eggs at the BAFF during fall 2003. In the fall of 2003 mean length and weight of age 1+ Coho were down, while mean length and weight of age 2+ Coho were up.

During fall 2003 over 10,000 pounds of salmon were given to food pantries. All of the salmon carcasses harvested from SCW and BAFF that were greater than 800 mm, or unsuitable for human consumption, were disposed of through a local contractor to be turned into liquid fish fertilizer. Eggs harvested at SCW and BAFF that were unsuitable for hatchery production, or surplus to the hatcheries needs, were sold under contract to a private company for use in bait production. During the fall of 2003, over 6,000 pounds of surplus eggs were sold and approximately $11,000 was received for the state’s general fund.
INTRODUCTION

STRAWBERRY CREEK

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* program began in the spring of 1969 when approximately 65,000 fingerlings were stocked in Strawberry Creek, Door County. Each year thereafter, an average of 200,000 fingerlings has been released at this Door County site (Figure 1). A fish trap or weir was constructed on Strawberry Creek, and Chinook eggs have been collected from sexually mature fish that returned to Strawberry Creek since the fall of 1972. Chinook salmon returning to Strawberry Creek Weir (SCW) have provided eggs for Wisconsin's Great Lakes stocking program and for other state and federal stocking programs. In addition detailed biological information regarding the spawning run has been collected at SCW since the late 1970’s. Biological data obtained each fall during the harvest provides important information on Chinook age, growth, movement, relative survival, various Chinook studies, and comparisons of various disease treatment techniques.

Chinook spawning at the weir begins with the careful examination of each male and female salmon. Only fish with no gross signs of disease are selected for spawning. Compressed oxygen is injected into the body cavity of the female salmon to expel the eggs. The body cavity of each female salmon is then carefully inspected by hatchery personnel for clinical signs of disease. Eggs from female salmon with no clinical signs of disease are then drained of ovarian fluid, fertilized, and water hardened. Since the fall of 1994 Chinook eggs have been water hardened in a thiamine-enriched solution. Chinook eggs harvested at SCW are transferred to several WDNR hatcheries for hatching and rearing. In spring, Chinook fingerlings from Wild Rose Fish Hatchery (WRFH) are stocked into SCW pond and held for a period of six to eight weeks. While in the pond they receive two or more daily feedings. During this time, the fish imprint to the stream water flowing through the pond. Upon release the fingerlings, which over the years have averaged approximately 90 mm in length, gradually leave SCW pond. Over the next two week period they make their way down Strawberry Creek (about ½ mile) to the Sturgeon Bay ship canal and eventually into Lake Michigan. During several of the recent years, Chinook fingerlings raised at SCW have been captured and trucked to the Sturgeon Bay ship canal because of low flow conditions in Strawberry Creek and low Lake Michigan levels. However, in the spring of 2002, and again in 2003, Lake Michigan water level and stream flow were adequate to allow a return to direct release from the pond.

In late August and early September mature Chinook begin to return to SCW. The salmon swim up Strawberry Creek, through a weir, and into a pond. Actual harvest and egg collection begins in late September and continues for about four to six weeks. The run usually peaks in early to mid October.
SCW was one of four original release sites when coded wire tag (CWT) studies began in 1982. The primary objective of the first CWT study was to determine the movement patterns and growth of CWT Chinook. From 1982 to 1984, 20,000 CWT Chinook fingerlings were released annually from SCW. The first return of CWT salmon to SCW pond occurred in 1983 and has continued yearly. From 1985 through 2002, we continued to tag a portion of the fingerlings released from SCW pond to monitor the growth of known age salmon and to conduct various treatment experiments. Since 1985, an age length key composed of known aged CWT fish has been used to estimate the age composition of the entire harvest. Prior to this time, a length frequency distribution was used to estimate the age composition of the fall run. Current CWT studies at SCW include: a fingerling marking technique study.
KEWAUNEE RIVER

Egg taking operations for Chinook and Coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* were conducted for the first time in fall 1990 at a new anadromous fish facility on the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County (Figure 1). This facility, later named the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility (BAFF), is one of the two WDNR primary egg collection stations for Coho and rainbow trout (Steelhead) *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. BAFF also functions as a backup for Chinook egg collection.

Previously Chinook and occasionally Coho were imprinted in a rearing pond and released several miles down river from the new facility. The pond has been renovated and is still used for rearing Coho for release to the Kewaunee River. Additionally, some Coho and Chinook are released directly into the Kewaunee River. Prior to 1990, very little biological information was collected on the fall runs of Chinook and Coho from the Kewaunee River. Now that BAFF is operational, Chinook and Coho runs are sampled annually. CWTs have also been used intermittently at BAFF for various Chinook and Coho salmon studies. Past studies include age, growth, rate of return, comparisons of strain evaluations, comparisons of rearing techniques, and comparisons of disease treatment techniques, on both Chinook and Coho salmon.

The life history of Coho is similar to that described above for Chinook. Coho are released directly into the lake or stream as yearlings in spring or as young of the year fingerlings in late summer to mid fall. Mature fish home back to the release site to spawn in late fall. Whereas most Chinook mature as age 2+ or age 3+, most Coho mature and return at age 2+. 
METHODS

At the time of stocking or transfer to a rearing pond, and again at the time of release from the rearing pond, subsamples of fingerlings were individually measured to the nearest mm, and weighed to the nearest gram. Starting in 1982 and continuing through 2002 a portion of the Chinook stocked at SCW were marked with CWTs. Beginning in 2003 a portion of the Chinook stocked at SCW will be marked with a fin clip and no CWT. At the time of harvest, all live Chinook at SCW and a sample of Chinook and Coho at BAFF were measured to the nearest millimeter. Weights on all CWT salmon and approximately half or more of the remaining salmon were measured to the nearest .02 kilogram with an electronic digital scale. Sex was visually determined for all fish and finclips were noted. The heads of all adipose-clipped salmon (probable CWT) were collected, marked with a sequentially numbered jaw tag, and frozen for future examination. In the lab, the presence of a microtag in each head was confirmed with the use of a metal detector. All CWTs were retrieved by dissection and decoded with a compound microscope. The binary code on each CWT identifies year of stocking, the agency that stocked the fish, the location of stocking, and the treatment group of each fish. Known age CWT Chinook returning to SCW in 2003 (corrected for variable numbers of CWTs stocked in different years) were used to develop an age-length key for aging non-CWT Chinook returning in 2003.

Trends in size and condition of Chinook salmon harvested at SCW have been examined each year since 1974. Annual sample sizes have ranged from 171 fish to over 10,000 fish. Only fish for which both total length and round weight were recorded were used in calculations. Three measures of estimated weight were calculated and analyzed for each year. They include 1) average weight; 2) trophy weight (weight of the 95th percentile of the weight distribution); and 3) standard weight (predicted weight of a 30 inch Chinook developed from a length-weight regression model). We used the same standard length of 30 inches for Chinook salmon as calculated by Hansen (1986), who conducted a similar study on sport harvested Chinook for the years 1969-1984. Statistical procedures were also the same as those used by Hansen.

This report also contains information on specific ongoing salmon studies. Methods for each of these specific studies are detailed in the appropriate section in the text pertaining to the individual study.
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

STRAWBERRY CREEK CHINOOK

GENERAL HARVEST

Chinook salmon harvest at SCW dropped to 6,086 in the fall of 2003 (down 45% from the record harvest in 2002) with an estimated weight of 81,551 pounds (Appendix A). Chinook harvest at SCW began on September 22nd and continued through October 28th (Table 1). Low lake level and low flow in Strawberry Creek necessitated the use of the pipeline again during the fall of 2003. For a fourth consecutive year, the pipeline functioned as designed and delivered enough water to Strawberry Creek to attract Chinook salmon and facilitate their upstream movement and capture in the pond. However, on October 15th after the peak of the Chinook run was past, and an adequate number of Chinook gametes had been collected, the pump suffered a major breakdown and stream flow dropped dramatically. As a result very few additional Chinook were captured at SCW. With the exception of the one late season egg collection at BAFF (to collect eggs from throughout the run), the entire quota of Chinook salmon eggs for use in Wisconsin’s hatcheries (3.4 million) were collected from SCW in the fall of 2003.

Table 1.-Daily summary of Chinook salmon harvest and spawning operations at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources spawning facility at Strawberry Creek, Door County, during the fall of 2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LIVE FISH</th>
<th>NUMBER DEAD FISH</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER</th>
<th>NUMBER ADIPOSE CLIPPED</th>
<th>POUNDS1 OF FISH</th>
<th>NUMBER2 EGGS HARVESTED</th>
<th>WDNR HATCHERY DESTINATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPT 22</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>4,395</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT 26</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>4,368</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 1</td>
<td>683</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,053</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>14,110</td>
<td>693,891 Wild Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 3</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>3,551</td>
<td>250,000 Wild Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>5,172</td>
<td>649,154 Wild Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 9</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>19,524</td>
<td>541,660 Bayfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 13</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,556</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>20,850</td>
<td>450,000 549,571 Westfield Wild Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 163</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>7,638</td>
<td>287,700 Wild Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 28</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1,447</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT-NOV</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>3,541</td>
<td>2,423</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>6,086</td>
<td>1,6144</td>
<td>81,551</td>
<td>3,421,976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Weights estimated using the average weight per fish for the entire harvest (2003 average weight was 13.4 pounds).
2Number of Chinook salmon eggs harvested by WDNR for hatchery production.
3Pump supplying supplemental water to Strawberry Creek broke down on Oct 15th and flow dropped dramatically making it almost impossible for additional fish to reach the Strawberry Creek pond.
4Only includes adipose Chinook that were captured alive. Heads were not kept from fish recovered dead.

The estimated age composition of the entire Chinook harvest at SCW consisted of six percent age 1+, 45 percent age 2+, 48 percent age 3+, and one percent age 4+ salmon (Table 2). An age-length key developed from known aged CWT Chinook captured at SCW in the fall of 2003 was used to divide the length frequency distribution of all Chinook measured at SCW in the fall of 2003 (sexes combined) into the four age groups (Figure 2).
Table 2.-Estimated age composition of Chinook salmon (sexes combined) harvested at the Strawberry Creek Weir, fall 1985-2003, based on an age-length key developed from known aged CWT Chinook salmon returning to Strawberry Creek.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR OF RETURN</th>
<th>PERCENT AGE COMPOSITION</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER RETURNED&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AGE 1+</td>
<td>AGE 2+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>7 %</td>
<td>7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>5 %</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>9 %</td>
<td>16 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>13 %</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>48 %</td>
<td>18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>13 %</td>
<td>64 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>31 %</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>39 %</td>
<td>36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>16 %</td>
<td>55 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>16 %</td>
<td>53 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>46 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td>47 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td>41 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>7 %</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>43 %</td>
<td>37 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup> Only fish that were actually measured were aged using the age-length key.
<sup>2</sup> Age composition of Chinook returning to Strawberry Creek in the fall of 1999 was heavily influenced by low flow conditions in Strawberry Creek. Most of the older, larger Chinook were unable to negotiate Strawberry Creek and enter the pond.
Figure 2.-Length frequency distribution of all Chinook salmon measured at SCW in the fall of 2003. Fish were divided into ages with the use of an age-length key developed from known aged CWT Chinook salmon captured at SCW in the fall of 2003. Corrected for variable number of CWT fish stocked at SCW.

TRENDS IN SIZE AND CONDITION OF CHINOOK SALMON, 1974 - 2003

The average, standard, and trophy weights of Chinook salmon returning to SCW in the fall of 2003 were all down from the weights observed in the previous year (Appendix B; Figure 3). Trophy weight, which has varied by nearly ten pounds during the past three decades, was down 2.6 pounds in 2003. Average weight and trophy weight are heavily influenced by the variable strength of year classes returning to SCW. When the year class returning at age 1+ is strong, average weight and trophy weight go down. Standard weight however, is independent of the varying strength of year classes returning to SCW and is based solely on the calculated length of a 30 inch fish using a standard length weight regression. Standard weight decreased slightly from fall 2002, and is now only 0.1 pound above the lowest standard weight documented since this characteristic was first described for the SCW Chinook in 1974.
Figure 3.-Average, trophy, and standard weight for Chinook salmon harvested at Strawberry Creek, Door County, 1974-2003.

CWT CHINOOK SALMON IN THE HARVEST

Heads from a total of 1,614 adipose clipped Chinook were recovered at SCW during the fall of 2003, down from a record of 3,684 in the fall of 2002 (Table 1). The decrease in adipose clipped Chinook returning to SCW was anticipated due to a decrease in the number of WDNR CWT Chinook at large. Of the 1,614 adipose clipped Chinook examined, a total of 1,581 CWTs were successfully extracted from the adipose clipped fish (Table 3). Additionally, 12 (0.7%) tags were lost during extraction and 20 (1.2%) of the adipose clipped Chinook did not have a CWT. An unknown portion of the 20 “adipose clipped” Chinook without a CWT can be explained by tag loss. However, a certain portion of these “no tag detected” can be attributed to heads from Chinook with small or deformed adipose fins kept on the chance that they may have had an adipose fin clip. All but two of the recovered CWTs were from Chinook released at SCW. The two strays were CWT Chinook from Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) releases.
Table 3.-Summary of 1,613 adipose clipped Chinook salmon harvested at the Strawberry Creek, fall 2003. In addition to the 1,581 CWTs listed below, 12 tags were lost during extraction and 20 of the adipose clipped Chinook had no tag detected. The Chinook released at Strawberry Creek were part of various Chinook fingerling studies. The two Chinook released by MDNR were strays to Strawberry Creek.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>LOCATION OF RELEASE</th>
<th>AGE AT CAPTURE</th>
<th>STOCKING AGENCY</th>
<th>NUMBER HARVESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Medusa Creek, MI</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>MICH DNR</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Chinook fingerlings stocked at Strawberry Creek A-CWT (regular production and controls for various studies).
2 Marking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked at Strawberry Creek A-CWT and LVclip.
3 Marking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked at Strawberry Creek CWT and no clip.
4 Marking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked at Strawberry Creek A-CWT and RV clip.
5 Marking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked at Strawberry Creek A-CWT and a photonic mark.

AGE AND SEX COMPOSITION OF SCW CWT CHINOOK SALMON

Four age classes of CWT Chinook were recovered at SCW in 2003 (Appendix C, Figure 4). Age 1+ returns (all males) accounted for three percent of the CWT harvest. Age 2+ Chinook, accounted for 26 percent of the harvest (72% male, 28% female). The age 3+ CWT Chinook made up 69 percent of the return (33% male, 67% female). Age 4+ salmon accounted for two percent of the total CWT harvest (17% male, 83% female).
SIZE AT AGE OF CWT CHINOOK SALMON

Size at known age (length and weight) of CWT Chinook at SCW from 1983 through 2003 is illustrated in Figures 5, 6, 7, and 8, and listed in Appendix Tables D and E. At 601 mm and 2.2 kg, fall 2003 age 1+ Chinook (all males) were up slightly from the fall of 2002 but were below the 21-year average of 607 mm and 2.3 kg. The average size of age 2+ CWT males was 819 mm and 5.2 kg, down from 2002 and below the 20-year average of 844 mm and 5.8 kg. Age 2+ females in the fall of 2003, at 801 mm and 5.5 kg, were also down from 2002 and below the 20-year average. There was negligible difference in length and weight between the study groups. Age 3+ males at 949 mm and 7.6 kg and age 3+ females at 900 mm and 7.4 kg were down from 2002 and also below the 19-year average established for this age group. At age 3+ there was negligible size difference between the study groups.
Figure 5.-Mean length of coded wire tagged, male Chinook salmon by known age class and year of return to Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, Wisconsin, 1983-2003.

Figure 6.-Mean weight of coded wire tagged, male Chinook salmon by known age class and year of return to Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, Wisconsin, 1983-2003.
Figure 7.- Mean length of coded wire tagged, female Chinook salmon by known age class and year of return to Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, Wisconsin, 1983-2003.

![Figure 7](image_url)

Figure 8.- Mean weight of coded wire tagged, female Chinook salmon by known age class and year of return to Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, Wisconsin, 1983-2003.

![Figure 8](image_url)
RATE OF RETURN, YEAR CLASS STRENGTH, AND SURVIVAL OF CWT SALMON

The rate of return for each of the CWT year classes of Chinook salmon stocked at SCW has varied widely from 1982 to present (Appendix F; Figure 9). The calculated rates represent an absolute minimum rate of return to SCW as they can not possibly account for CWT loss before capture or during tag extraction. Additionally, for the last several years adipose clipped fish that returned to Strawberry Creek that died before harvest have not been kept for CWT extraction. SCW stocked CWT Chinook are also known to stray to other rivers at maturity. Cumulative return has varied from a low of 0.75 percent for the 1985 year class to a high of 5.05 percent for the 1999 year class. Not only has cumulative year class return rate varied but so has the relative return rate by age within a year class. For the year classes 1982 through 1985, age 3+ Chinook were typically 50 percent or more of the cumulative return of that year class. From 1986 through present, with the exception of the 1993 and 1997 year classes, age 3+ Chinook have contributed less than 50 percent to the cumulative return rate of any year class. The return of the 1997 year class at age 2+ and 1996 year class at age 3+ (fall of 1999) were heavily influenced by the low water level of Lake Michigan and the low flow of Strawberry Creek. We believe that the trend of a higher return rate at age 2+ than at age 3+ would have continued for the 1997 year class if water levels and flow conditions had been normal. The change in rate of return at age (maturity schedule) was concurrent with and is likely associated with the Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD) outbreak of 1988 and 1989.

Figure 9.-Cumulative rate of return (percent) for the 1982-2002 year classes of coded wire tagged (CWT) Chinook salmon stocked at Strawberry Creek, Door County, Wisconsin, by year class, age 1+ through age 4+. For the year classes 1995 through 2000 there were multiple lots of CWT Chinook stocked but the return rates have been pooled for this graphic. Comparative rates of return of the various study groups are analyzed later in this report. The return rates of the 1996 year class at age 3+, the 1997 year class at age 2+, and the 1998 year class at age 1+ were heavily influenced by low Lake Michigan water levels and low flow conditions in Strawberry Creek during the fall of 1999.
Numerous CWT studies are in progress at SCW and the poor return in the fall of 1999 will no doubt confound interpretation of some of these studies. During the fall of 1999, the low flow of Strawberry Creek and the low level of Lake Michigan affected the return of all year classes, especially the older, larger cohorts. No direct comparisons should be drawn between recovery rates observed at SCW in the fall of 1999 and any other fall. This would include the recovery of the 1996 year class at age 3+, the 1997 year class at age 2+, and the 1998 year class at age 1+. However, comparisons between various same aged cohorts returning in 1999 are likely still valid.

The estimated number of Chinook by age (CWT and non-CWT), returning to SCW is detailed in Appendix G. The total percent return is based on the number of Chinook fingerlings stocked for each year class. The estimated cumulative recovery rate of the 1999 year class of Chinook stocked at SCW, through age 4+, was 6.7 percent and is the highest estimated year class recovery rate since 1982 when this statistic was first calculated.

INCIDENTAL FISH CAUGHT AT SCW

Over the 30 years of Chinook collection at SCW, a few incidental salmonids have been captured intermixed with the Chinook salmon. Since the fall of 2000 when the pipeline was first utilized to supplement flow at SCW, the number of incidental salmonids has risen sharply. In 2000, 92 Coho salmon, two Brown trout, and one Brook trout were captured at SCW. In 2001, ten Coho and five Brown trout were captured. In 2002, 46 Coho and 25 Brown trout were captured. In 2003, incidental salmonids captured at SCW were down sharply as only four Coho salmon and four Brown trout were captured.

REARING OF CHINOOK FINGERLINGS

In the spring of 2003 an estimated 152,000 Chinook fingerlings were successfully released from the SCW pond on May 20th (Appendix H). This included an estimated 28,000 ARV clipped fingerlings. The number of chinook released from SCW in 2003 represents an approximate 25 percent decrease in the number of fingerlings imprinted at SCW. This was a premeditated effort to decrease the number of adult salmon returning to SCW. Over the last several years, since installation and use of the pipeline, the size of the run of adult salmon to SCW has strained the ability of the facility and staff to safely handle the number of fish returning. To preserve the regional distribution of Chinook salmon stocking throughout the Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan, Chinook fingerlings diverted from stocking at SCW were stocked at other Door County locations.

This was the first year since 1982 that no CWT fingerlings were released at SCW. The CWT known aged chinook stocked at SCW have been an important component of our Lake Michigan fisheries management program. In 2003 the fingerlings were stocked with a fin clip instead of a CWT to reduce the cost of marking and evaluating the marked fish upon their return. A marking technique study conducted at SCW and discussed later in this report supported the shift from CWT to fin clipping as an acceptable marking technique. Hatchery staff noted on the transfer receipt that some of the ARV clipped Chinook fingerlings only received partial RV clip. This was also noted when the clipped fish were transferred to the SCW pond on April 22nd when 23 of the 100 fish examined were determined to have a partial RV clip. At the time of release the fingerlings averaged 93.7 mm and 6.7 g (ARV and non clipped commingled). In 2003 all Chinook fingerlings destined for stocking in Lake Michigan by the WDNR and other agencies were to be marked with oxytetracycline (OTC) prior to stocking. The OTC marking of these fingerlings was conducted at WRFH before they were transferred to SCW in late April.
CHINOOK SALMON STUDIES AT SCW

CHINOOK SALMON MARKING TECHNIQUE STUDY

INTRODUCTION
The WDNR began using CWTs as a technique of marking Chinook salmon back in 1982. Since that time the WDNR has marked and released in excess of 1.4 million CWT Chinook salmon. The various CWT studies have added much to our knowledge of Chinook salmon in Lake Michigan and has allowed the WDNR to improve our Chinook rearing and management techniques. Although the CWT technique of marking Chinook fingerlings has been reliable and effective, it is also expensive and labor intensive. The CWTs and the necessary equipment to apply and detect CWTs are currently purchased from a sole vendor who has kept the price of utilizing CWTs high. Other drawbacks to the CWT technique is the lethal technique required to retrieve the CWT for decoding and the high expense associated with the necessary manpower to collect salmon heads, extract the CWTs from the fish heads, and then finally decode the extracted CWTs. Additionally, large scale projects such as those conducted by the WDNR in recent years also require the maintenance of large freezer capacities for the storage of salmon heads for processing. This project was set up to evaluate alternate ways of marking Chinook fingerlings for future studies that would be both effective and more reasonably priced.

Standard fin clipping is much less expensive and provides instant recognition. With instant recognition, the costs associated with head collection, storage, extraction, and decoding would be eliminated. However, fin clips have the disadvantage of possible fin regeneration and a limited number of clips available annually which must be coordinated and shared with other Great Lakes states conducting Chinook salmon research. Additionally, there have been studies conducted on Pacific salmon by the state of Washington (personal communication, Thompson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) which indicated reduced survival of salmonid fingerlings marked with fin clips, especially when any of the paired fins were removed.

Recently, a rather promising technique of fish marking was developed by NEWWEST Technologies. The technique known as photonic tagging involves the use of compressed air to dispense a precisely measured amount of “tag” under pressure. The tag is actually a liquid suspension of microscopic fluorescent microspheres, which can be supplied in a wide variety of colors (wavelengths). Additionally, the fluorescent microspheres can be injected into whatever fin the researcher decides. In theory, simply passing a marked fish under an UV light source of the appropriate wavelength (365) can fluoresce the tag and identify fish marked by this technique. By using a combination of different colored tags and various marking locations (different fins) a large number of uniquely marked fish seemed possible. The “tags” for the photonic tagging technique were comparable in price to current CWT costs. However, the equipment to mark the fish photonically was much less expensive. Similar to fin clipping, the concept of photonic tagging had the advantage of instant, non-lethal recognition. This meant that no fish heads would need to be collected, and stored, no tags would need to be extracted and decoded, and no large freezer capacity would need to be maintained. Manpower and cost savings could be substantial. A study to evaluate the photonic marking technique and paired fin clipping on Chinook salmon in Lake Michigan was designed.
METHODS
In the spring of 1999 and again in the spring of 2000 three separate lots of CWT Chinook salmon fingerlings were marked and released from Strawberry Creek along with the standard production fish (Appendix H). In 1999 one lot was marked with the conventional adipose fin clip and CWT (A-CWT), a second lot was marked with an adipose, right ventral fin clip (ARV-CWT), and the third lot was marked with an adipose fin clip, CWT, and a photonic mark (A-CWT photonic). In 1999 there were three different photonic colors utilized (orange, pink, and green), in approximately equal proportion, but they all received the same CWT code (Figure 10). The study plan for the 2000 phase of the study was to repeat the same three study groups except that the one lot would be marked with an adipose, left ventral fin clip (ALV-CWT), and the photonic lot would be subdivided into three separate color lots each with their own unique CWT code. Days before photonic marking was to begin, in the spring of 2000, the company cooperating in this study was unable to follow through on their plans, and the three lots of CWT Chinook fingerlings destined for photonic tagging were marked and stocked out as a single lot with CWT only (no adipose fin clip) as a last minute modification to the study.

Figure 10.-Photonic marked Chinook salmon fingerlings stocked at Strawberry Creek in the spring of 1999. These fingerlings were part of a marking technique study and in addition to the photonic mark they were also marked with an adipose fin clip and CWT. Three colors, (orange, pink, and green) of photonic tags were utilized in approximately equal proportions but all three colors carried the same CWT code.
In the spring of 1999 all three study lots of CWT Chinook fingerlings were stocked into the SCW pond on May 3rd, and reared with the standard production fingerlings. At the time of stocking into the SCW pond, the various groups of CWT study fingerlings were similar in size and ranged from 82.6mm to 86.6mm and 4.3g to 5.0g (Appendix H). The Chinook fingerlings were released from the SCW pond on May 17th. Before release, underwater video of the CWT fingerlings mixed in with the standard production fingerlings was filmed in the SCW pond. In this video, the photonic tagged fingerlings can easily be seen mixed in with the non-marked fingerlings. At the time of release from SCW pond the photonic mark was very visible to the unaided eye without the use of an UV light source. We estimate that the following numbers of Chinook marking technique study fingerlings were successfully released from SCW: 24,900 A-CWT (31/17/26); 25,000 ARV-CWT (31/17/27); and 24,800 A-CWT-photonic (31/17/34) split into approximate thirds and marked with one of three different photonic colors, (8,300 pink, 8,300 green, and 8,200 orange).

In the spring of 2000 all three study lots of CWT Chinook fingerlings were stocked into the SCW pond on May 10th, and reared with the standard production fingerlings. At the time of stocking into the SCW pond, the various groups of CWT study fingerlings were similar in size and ranged from 85.4mm to 86.7mm and 5.1g to 5.7g (Appendix H). The Chinook fingerlings were released from the SCW pond on June 5th. We estimate that the following numbers of Chinook marking technique study fingerlings were successfully released from SCW: 26,000 A-CWT (31/17/35); 26,000 ALV-CWT (31/17/28); and 27,000 CWT without an adipose clip (31/17/36).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
In the fall of 2000 the 1999 year class was recovered at SCW at the age of 1+ (Table 4, Figure 11). The A-CWT photonic tagged Chinook were recovered at a rate of 1.20 percent, the ARV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 1.04 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 0.92 percent.

In the fall of 2001 the 1999 year class was recovered at SCW at the age of 2+ and the 2000 year class was recovered at the age of 1+ (Table 4, Figure 11). Within the 1999 year class, the A-CWT photonic tagged Chinook were recovered at a rate of 2.00 percent, the ARV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 1.92 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 1.82 percent (Table 4, Figure 11). Within the 2000 year class, the CWT only Chinook were recovered at a rate of 0.64 percent, the ALV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 0.56 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 0.75 percent.

In the fall of 2002 the 1999 year class was recovered at SCW at the age of 3+ and the 2000 year class was recovered at the age of 2+ (Table 4, Figure 11). Within the 1999 year class, the A-CWT photonic tagged Chinook were recovered at a rate of 2.03 percent, the ARV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 2.03 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 2.02 percent (Table 4, Figure 11). Within the 2000 year class, the CWT only Chinook were recovered at a rate of 1.49 percent, the ALV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 1.56 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 2.00 percent.
In the fall of 2003 the 1999 year class was recovered at SCW at the age of 4+ and the 2000 year class was recovered at the age of 3+ (Table 4, Figure 11). Within the 1999 year class, the A-CWT photonic tagged Chinook were recovered at a rate of 0.05 percent, the ARV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 0.06 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 0.04 percent (Table 4, Figure 11). Within the 2000 year class, the CWT only Chinook were recovered at a rate of 0.09 percent, the ALV-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 2.09 percent, and the standard production A-CWT treatment group was recovered at a rate of 1.98 percent.

Table 4.- Return rate of CWT Chinook salmon at age and by year class to the Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, for year classes 1999 and 2000 for the marking technique study through the fall of 2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR CLASS</th>
<th>TREATMENT GROUP</th>
<th>AGE AT RETURN</th>
<th>CUMULATIVE RETURN BY YEAR CLASS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>A-CWT (std production)</td>
<td>0.92 1.82 2.02 0.04</td>
<td>4.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>ARV-CWT</td>
<td>1.04 1.92 2.03 0.06</td>
<td>5.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>A-CWT + Photonic</td>
<td>1.20 2.00 2.03 0.05</td>
<td>5.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>A-CWT (std production)</td>
<td>0.75 2.00 1.98</td>
<td>4.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>ALV-CWT</td>
<td>0.56 1.56 2.09</td>
<td>4.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>CWT without A clip</td>
<td>0.64 1.49 0.09*</td>
<td>2.22*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In the fall of 2003 when the “CWT without A clip” study group was returning to SCW at age 3+, efforts to individually pass all adult salmon through a CWT detector was abandoned early in the run because of logistical difficulties.

Figure 11.-Percent recovery of Chinook salmon at age, at Strawberry Creek Weir, from the marking technique study CWT treatment lots, from the 1999 and 2000 year classes through the fall of 2003. In the fall of 2003 when the “CWT without A clip” study group was returning to SCW at age 3+, efforts to individually pass all adult salmon through a CWT detector was abandoned early in the run because of logistical difficulties.
In the fall of 2000, all Chinook likely to be age 1+ (by preliminary size evaluation) and adipose clipped were visually inspected for the presence of a photonic mark. In normal daylight conditions, no photonic marks were detected. All of these same fish were then taken to a darkened room and viewed under 365 wavelength UV light. Still no photonic marks were detected by this technique. As a final step, the anal fins of all of these Chinook salmon were severed near the base of the fin and the fin was viewed in cross section under the UV light in a darkened room. Viewed under these conditions, many of the Chinook had detectable sometimes even bright colored photonic marks. In all, a total of 636 Chinook were checked with these techniques. During subsequent extraction and decoding of the CWTs in the Chinook sampled, we determined that 68 of the fish did not have a CWT or the CWT was lost during extraction. Another 35 of these fish were from other studies. These other fish were age 1+ strays from other locations, or were small, slow growing age 2+ or older Chinook, that were not part of this study group. Seven of these fish were ARV-CWTs that were inadvertently tested, improperly clipped (missing the RV), or had RV fin regeneration. A total of 526 of the fish tested by these techniques were actually part of this study. Of these 296 (56 percent) were A-CWT (31/17/34) which was the group marked with photonic tags and 230 (44 percent) were A-CWT (31/17/26) which was the group stocked at SCW as a control for the ARV-CWT and A-CWT photonic groups.

Detection of the presence or absence of a photonic mark was not an absolute technique. At best, mark detection was time consuming and difficult. The anal fins from about a third of the 636 Chinook observed under UV light in a darkened room exhibited some light yellow/green color fluorescence, typically around the edges of the fin cross section. This false/positive reading was common among all of the study groups whether they had been marked with photonic tag or not. Another confounding factor was an apparent color shift in the photonic tag that had been used. When applied, the photonic colors used were pink, orange, and green. At the time of tagging, there seemed to be good color separation between color groups. Yet many of the viewers of the Chinook anal fins under UV light described the observed colors as red, orange, yellow, or green. This was especially confusing when different viewers would describe the colors they saw as red, orange, and green and the next day’s observer described the colors as orange, yellow, and green. Some viewers on other days used all four colors in their interpretation (red, orange, yellow, and green). In retrospect, when compared to preserved specimens collected at stocking, the pink photonic tag exhibited a color shift to something intermediate to red/orange and the orange photonic tag exhibited a shift to a color intermediate to orange/yellow. The green color was still interpreted as green. For the purpose of this analysis of the photonic mark, the pink and orange groups were combined and represented approximately two thirds of the photonic marked fingerlings stocked.

Of the 296 Chinook identified by CWT lot number as the photonic study group, 213 (72 %) were interpreted to have a recognizable photonic mark when cross sections of the anal fin were viewed under UV light in a darkened room. The red/orange/yellow marks accounted for 173 (81 %) of visible marks (at stocking, pink and orange photonic marks accounted for 66.5 percent of study fish) and green accounted for 40 (19 %) of the visible marks (green marks accounted for 33.5 percent at stocking). Additionally, 77 percent of the red/orange/yellow marks were interpreted to be good or strong and 23 percent were called weak. Whereas, only 45 percent of the green marks were interpreted as good or strong and 55 percent were described as weak. Also, 30 of the 68 (44 %) no tag/lost tag group were interpreted to have a photonic mark. Four (2 %) of the 230 A-CWT control group were interpreted to have a weak orange photonic mark. Whether this was a misinterpretation of the false/positive light yellow/green color fluorescence (typically around
the edges of the fin cross section), inadvertent mixing of the CWT lots after tagging but before photonic marking, or cross contamination from the shears used to cut the anal fins is unknown.

In the fall of 2001, all adipose clipped Chinook likely to be older than age 1+ (by preliminary size evaluation) were visually inspected for the presence of a photonic mark. In normal daylight conditions, no photonic marks were detected. As time and man power permitted, the anal fins of adipose clipped Chinook salmon older than age 1+, were severed near the base of the fin and the fin was viewed in cross section under the UV light in a darkened room. Viewed under these conditions, some of the Chinook had detectable sometimes even bright colored photonic marks.

In all, a total of 1,119 Chinook were checked with these techniques. During subsequent extraction and decoding of the CWTs in the Chinook sampled, we determined that a total of 365 of the fish viewed under UV light were actually from lot 31/17/34, the study group that was experimentally, marked with the photonic tag. The remainder of these fish were actually from other studies, had no tag detected, or the tag was lost during extraction. Of the 365 photonically marked fish that were inspected, 210 (58%) were interpreted to have a photonic mark, with no mark detected in the others (42%). Additionally, 39 Chinook with no tag or that had a CWT lost during extraction, were also interpreted to have a photonic mark. Of the 210 fish with a photonic mark, 169 (80%) were interpreted to have a red/orange/yellow mark (at stocking, pink and orange photonic marks accounted for 66.5 percent of study fish) and 41 (20%) were interpreted to have a green/blue mark (green marks accounted for 33.5 percent at stocking).

In the fall of 2000, at age 1+, photonically marked fish had a detection rate of 72 percent. In the fall of 2001, at age 2+, the detection rate of photonically marked fish dropped to 58 percent. In both years green was detected at a lower rate than the pink/orange mark. Even though 33.5 percent of the fish marked with a photonic tag were marked with a green photonic tag, only 19 percent of the marks detected in 2000 and 20 percent of the marks detected in 2001 were green.

After two years of recovery (through age 2+), we have concluded that it is not feasible to use photonic tagging as an instant recognition, non-lethal technique of marking and recognizing anadromous Chinook. The techniques we found necessary to look for and verify the photonic marks in mature Chinook returning to the weir were quite labor intensive, and then, at age 2+, only 58 percent of the fish marked with a photonic mark, were interpreted to have a mark. Only a single cut of the anal fin (near the base) was made. It is not known if multiple cuts of the anal fin at various distances from the base would have improved detection rates of photonic marks. The photonic marking technique may have some valid fisheries application for marking fish. However, instant recognition, non-lethal detection in anadromous Chinook, is not one of those applications. As a result of the record number of Chinook processed at SCW in the fall of 2002 and the poor study results through age 2+, Chinook recovered at SCW in the fall of 2002 were not examined for the presence of a photonic mark.

Despite the abandonment of photonic mark verification, Chinook marked with a photonic mark were still processed as A-CWT study fish. Through age 4+, A-CWT photonic marked, ARV-CWT, and A-CWT Chinook from the 1999 year class were recovered at SCW at a cumulative rate of 5.28 percent, 5.05 percent, and 4.80 percent respectively (Table 4). All three study groups received an adipose clip and were marked with a CWT. There is no logical reason that removal of the RV fin or the photonic mark should have improved survival. Based on these returns through age 4+, we conclude that neither the photonic marking of Chinook fingerlings, nor the use of a combination ARV clip (as applied by the WDNR crew at WRFH) were detrimental to the subsequent recovery of the 1999 year class of Chinook at SCW.
Cumulative recoveries of the marking study Chinook from the 2000 year class at SCW through age 3+, were 4.73 percent (A-CWT), 4.21 percent (ALV-CWT), and 2.22 percent (CWT with no clip) respectively (Table 4 and Figure 11). A slightly lower recovery rate for the CWT-no clip through age 2+ might have occurred because there was no fin clip to indicate the likely presence of a CWT. The only CWT-no clip fish that were collected for CWT extraction, were fish that were physically run through a detector and found to be carrying a CWT. The process of passing whole fish through the detectors available to us at the time of the study probably failed to detect some of the CWTs present in CWT-no clip fish. The dramatically lower recovery rate of the CWT-no clip fish at age 3+ can be explained because in the fall of 2003 we abandoned the process of checking all unclipped fish for CWTs. We found the process of checking all of the unclipped Chinook at SCW too labor intensive and time consuming. In retrospect, the last minute addition of the CWT no clip study group to the fish marking technique study was probably not a good decision because of the logistical difficulties associated with physically checking every unmarked Chinook for a CWT.

In contrast to the 1999 year class, Chinook from the 2000 year class marked with the combination clip and CWT (ALV-CWT) were recovered at SCW at a slightly lower rate than the study group marked with an A-CWT. If the recovery rate of the combination clipped Chinook had been lower for both year classes, it would have suggested that the clipping of an additional fin, and in particular a ventral fin, was detrimental to the subsequent recovery of the marked fish at the spawning weirs. The fact that one year class of combination clipped fish came back at a slightly higher rate and one came back at a slightly lower rate implies that the combination clip does not account for the recovery rate differences.

We conclude that as applied by our hatchery staff at Wild Rose Fish Hatchery, the use of a ventral fin clip was not more detrimental than the use of an adipose fin clip and CWT insertion. We further conclude from this study that although photonic marking was not detrimental to subsequent recovery rates, it is not an acceptable technique of fish marking for instantaneous non-lethal recognition. Based on the results of this study, we intend to use fin clips to identify Chinook imprinted to return to SCW and discontinue the use of CWTs.
BESADNY ANADROMOUS FISHERIES FACILITY

CHINOOK

GENERAL HARVEST

A total of 1,197 Chinook salmon were captured and processed at BAFF in the fall of 2003 (Table 5) and an unknown number of Chinook were allowed to swim past the BAFF through the bypass gates. The number of Chinook harvested is below the 14 year average of 1,770 since records have been kept (Table 6) but is not indicative of the actual size of the run. During the fall of 2003 with the pump/pipeline operational at SCW it was anticipated that all of Wisconsin’s Chinook gamete requirements would be collected at SCW. Therefore at BAFF, in an attempt to increase the number of Chinook allowed upstream from the BAFF for the sport fishery and in an attempt to reduce the amount of manpower required to pass fish, Chinook were allowed to swim through the bypass gates, until a run of Coho salmon was anticipated. However, a Chinook gamete harvest did occur at BAFF on October 23rd in response to an October 15th pump failure at SCW. By October 23rd, the WDNR had enough Chinook gametes harvested to meet our hatchery needs but there was an interest in collecting gametes from throughout the entire span of the Chinook run and as a result approximately 184,000 eggs were collected. Eggs from miscellaneous Chinook harvested at BAFF in the fall of 2003 were sold, along with the surplus eggs from SCW, under contract to a bait company.

Table 5.-Daily summary of Chinook salmon harvest at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility on the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County, during the fall of 2003\(^1\).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>FISH HARVESTED</th>
<th>NUMBER DEAD FISH</th>
<th>FISH(^1) PASSED UPSTREAM</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER FISH</th>
<th>NUMBER ADIPOSE CLIPPED</th>
<th>EGGS HARVESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 14</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 23</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 28</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 6</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT/NOV</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>1,197</td>
<td>22(^3)</td>
<td>184,224(^2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\)In 2003 an attempt was made to pass as many Chinook as possible without handling by opening bypass gates at BAFF until the Coho run started. As a result no count of how many fish were passed is possible.

\(^2\)Pump supplying supplemental water to SCW broke down on Oct 15th. In an effort to collect Chinook eggs from throughout the entire run, gametes were collected at BAFF on Oct 23rd.

\(^3\)Dead adipose clipped Chinook collected throughout the season were not kept for tag extraction because of the advanced stage of decay.
Table 6.-Yearly summary of Chinook salmon harvest and spawning operations at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility on the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County, 1990-2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HARVEST YEAR</th>
<th>CHINOOK HARVESTED</th>
<th>PASSED UP RIVER</th>
<th>DEAD FISH</th>
<th>TOTAL CHINOOK</th>
<th>ADIPOSE CLIPPED</th>
<th>EGGS HARVESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1,307</td>
<td>1,797</td>
<td>3,104</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>1,081,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>2,390</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>3,356</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1,880,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>2,254</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>3,874</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>2,148,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>2,180</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>3,260</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>880,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>1,722</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>471,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1,182</td>
<td>1,362</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>2,621</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>2,029</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>3,193</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>616,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>1,139</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>1,518</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>2,858</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>4,005</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>1,155,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>3,189</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>5,798</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>3,291,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>1,733</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>2,774</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>4,323</td>
<td>1,066</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>5,613</td>
<td>2,084</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4,929</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>1,121</td>
<td>6,224</td>
<td>2,713</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>UNKNOWN1</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>1,197</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>184,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>1,452</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>3,447</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>1,240,064</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1During the fall of 2003, Chinook salmon were intentionally passed by opening bypass gates so that fish did not have to be handled. As a result there is no accurate count of the number of Chinook passed.

The number of adipose clipped salmon (CWT) encountered at BAFF dropped dramatically from 2,713 in 2002 to 22 in 2003 in direct response to the completion of CWT studies in the Kewaunee River. Of the 22 adipose clipped Chinook were observed at BAFF in 2003 (Appendix I), five were age 4+ from Kewaunee River releases, and the remaining 17 were age 2+ and age 3+ strays from SCW, or various MDNR stocking locations on Lakes Huron and Michigan.

Other than detailed information collected on all adipose clipped (CWTs) Chinook captured and those collected for health examination, limited biological information was collected from the unclipped Chinook returning to BAFF. Detailed biological information is collected from Chinook returning to SCW each fall and Chinook returning to BAFF are believed to have similar biological characteristics. A detailed history of Chinook stocking in the Kewaunee River is available in Appendix J.
COHO

GENERAL HARVEST

During the fall of 2003, a total of 266 Coho were captured at BAFF (Table 7). The Coho return to the BAFF over the previous decade has ranged from a low of 175 in 2001 to a high of 3,887 in 1990 (Table 8). The Coho return in the fall of 2003 was well below the 14 year average (1990-2003) of 1,630. From mid October on, fish entering BAFF were processed on an irregular basis with Coho being sorted back to the holding ponds with as little handling as possible. In early November when Coho spawning began all fish that had been sorted back to the ponds and those that had just entered the facility were harvested and spawned. Numbers of Coho harvested on specific dates in Table 8 are not indicative of the dates of the Coho run because of the practice of sorting adults back to the holding pond. Coho harvested for spawning were sexed, checked for fin clips, measured and most of them were weighed.

Table 7.-Summary of Coho salmon harvest at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility on the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County, during the fall of 2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harvest Date</th>
<th>Fish Harvested</th>
<th>Number Dead Fish</th>
<th>Fish Passed Upstream¹</th>
<th>Total Number Fish</th>
<th>Eggs Harvested</th>
<th>Destination Of Eggs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>146 Male, 89 Female</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>156,222</td>
<td>Kettle Moraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>8 Male, 10 Female</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept/Nov²</td>
<td>2 Male, 1 Female</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>156 Male, 99 Female</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>156,222</td>
<td>Kettle Moraine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Primarily precocious male Coho captured during Chinook harvest operations.
²Coho handled during Chinook harvest operations that were not sorted back to the pond to be held for spawning.

WDNR personnel collected approximately 0.156 million Coho eggs at the BAFF during fall 2003 (Table 7). Coho eggs collected at BAFF in the fall of 2003 were transported to Kettle Moraine Springs Fish Hatchery for hatching and rearing. Coho eggs not suitable for hatchery production were sold under contract to a bait dealer along with surplus Chinook eggs from BAFF and SCW. No adipose clipped Coho were collected at BAFF in fall 2003. All CWT Coho stocked in the Kewaunee River system in recent years have matured and cycled through the fishery. Although CWT Coho have recently been stocked in the Root River, none were captured at BAFF in the fall of 2003.
Table 8.-Yearly summary of Coho salmon harvest and spawning operations at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility on the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County, 1990-2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR OF HARVEST</th>
<th>COHO HARVESTED</th>
<th>PASSED UP RIVER</th>
<th>DEAD FISH</th>
<th>TOTAL COHO</th>
<th>ADIPOSE CLIPPED</th>
<th>EGGS HARVESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2,074</td>
<td>1,813</td>
<td>3,887</td>
<td>1,374,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,374,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>790,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>790,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>163,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>163,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1,392</td>
<td></td>
<td>529,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>717</td>
<td></td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>2,744</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>3,767</td>
<td></td>
<td>535,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,762^2</td>
<td>3,383</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>644,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>1,162</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>524,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>1,518</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2,432</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>607,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>1,638</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,445,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>1,654</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,115,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>109,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>156,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>704</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,630</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>607,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Includes fish that were used for egg collection, fish harvested for distribution to food pantries, and those that were collected for disease and contaminant analysis.

2 In 1996 it was decided that 1,514 Coho (BV clip) that had been exposed to Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis as fingerlings should not be used for egg harvest, and that they should not be passed upstream. These fish were captured alive but were sacrificed and disposed of along with the dead fish.

Coho returning to BAFF in the fall of 2003 were age 1+ precocious males from the 2002 year class (stocked as fingerlings in the fall of 2002 or as yearlings in the spring of 2003), or age 2+ fish from the 2001 year class (stocked as fingerlings in the fall of 2001 or as yearlings in the spring of 2002) (Appendix K). Currently, there are no Coho studies in the Kewaunee River system and as a result none of the Coho from the 2001 or 2002 year classes were marked with an identifying mark. Coho used for spawning and a sample of age 1+ precocious males were measured and weighed. All other Coho processed at BAFF in the fall of 2003 (age 1+ precocious males and age 2+ males and females not used for spawning) were processed with a minimum of handling. As a result, Coho recovery rate for the 2001 and 2002 year classes (Appendix L, Figure 12) is necessarily based on information collected from spawned fish and an interpretation of information regarding the sex ratio and the dates of Coho passed upstream. Also, because the 2001 and 2002 Coho year classes were not identified with any type of mark, the cumulative recovery rate of Coho is based on the cumulative numbers of fingerlings and yearlings stocked.
The 2001 year class was recovered at a rate of 0.027 percent in the fall of 2002 (all precocious males) and at age 2+ at a rate of 0.117 in the fall of 2003 for an overall cumulative recovery rate of 0.145 percent (Appendix L, Figure 12). Recovery rate for the 2002 year class at age 1+ in the fall of 2003 was 0.046 percent. Cumulative (two year) recovery rates of Coho has ranged from a high of 4.261 percent, for one lot of Coho (1994 year class) stocked in the Kewaunee River as part of an erythromycin study, to a low of 0.036 percent, for one lot of Coho (1994 year class) stocked as hyper accelerated Coho fingerlings. Other than the 1994 lot of hyper accelerated Coho, the cumulative recovery rate of the 1999 year class was the lowest since these statistics have been kept for Coho returning to BAFF. With no identifying fin clips, there is no easy way to differentiate the recovered Coho from the 2001 or 2002 year class as attributable to either fingerling or yearling stocked fish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Class</th>
<th>Cumulative Recovery Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994 F</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 Y</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 E</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 U</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 F</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 Y</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 T</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 UT</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 F</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 Y</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 T</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 UT</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 12.-Coho salmon cumulative recovery rate of return to the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility, Kewaunee County.** For year classes 1994, 1995, and 1996, letter designations F (fingerlings), Y (yearlings), E (erythromycin treated), T (thiamine treated), and UT (not treated with thiamine) designate specific marked lots of Coho stocked in the Kewaunee for various studies. The 1994U and 1995U lots were unmarked yearlings stocked in the Kewaunee and aged by length frequency. The 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002 lots were a combination of unmarked fingerlings and yearlings from the respective year classes and were aged by length frequency.

In the fall of 2003 mean length and weight of age 1+ Coho were down, while mean length and weight of age 2+ Coho was up (Appendix M, Figure 13 and 14). Age 1+ males averaged 432.7 mm and 0.7 kg, and age 2+ males averaged 703.9 mm and 3.0 kg, while age 2+ females averaged 675.1 mm and 3.0 kg.
Figure 13.-Mean length of Coho salmon by age class and year of return to the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility, 1995-2003. No age 1+ Coho were measured at BAFF in the fall of 2000.

Figure 14.-Mean weight of Coho salmon by age class and year of return to the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility, 1995-2003. No age 1+ Coho were weighed at BAFF in the fall of 2000.
DISPOSAL OF SALMON CARCASSES AND SURPLUS EGGS FROM WDNR SPAWNING WEIRS IN NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

Although salmon less than 800 mm were cleared for sale for human consumption, and a request for bids was announced, no bids were received. On most harvest days, all salmon harvested at SCW and BAFF that were less than 800 mm were iced and shipped to various food pantries in Northeast Wisconsin. During fall 2003 over 10,000 pounds of salmon were given to food pantries. All of the salmon carcasses harvested from SCW and BAFF that were greater than 800 mm, or unsuitable for human consumption, were disposed of through a local contractor who agreed to take all of the salmon carcasses at no cost on the condition that all carcasses would be turned into liquid fish fertilizer. At times during previous years, WDNR staff had to dispose of salmon carcasses at approved landfills. This involved additional man hours, substantial mileage, and sizable tipping fees. Eggs harvested at SCW and BAFF that were unsuitable for hatchery production, or surplus to the hatcheries needs, were sold under contract to a private company for use in bait production. During the fall of 2003, over 6,000 pounds of surplus eggs were sold and approximately $11,000 was received for the state’s general fund.

REFERENCES

Appendix A.-Yearly summary of the Chinook salmon harvest and spawning operations at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources spawning facility at Strawberry Creek, Door County, 1981-2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HARVEST YEAR</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER LIVE &amp; DEAD</th>
<th>NUMBER ADIPOSE CLIPPED</th>
<th>TOTAL(^1) WEIGHT (POUNDS)</th>
<th>HATCHERY(^2) EGG PRODUCTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>4,314</td>
<td></td>
<td>74,209</td>
<td>9,786,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>3,963</td>
<td></td>
<td>60,206</td>
<td>7,728,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>3,852</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>66,091</td>
<td>6,954,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>5,208</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>76,905</td>
<td>7,652,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>5,601</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>90,860</td>
<td>7,058,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>4,392</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>53,700</td>
<td>5,052,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>7,624</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>99,100</td>
<td>4,929,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>3,477</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>43,645</td>
<td>3,997,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1,845</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>20,849</td>
<td>1,350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>3,016</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>47,091</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3,009</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>43,630</td>
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<td>382</td>
<td>51,878</td>
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<td>4,377</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>66,094</td>
<td>2,156,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>4,051</td>
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<td>63,195</td>
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<td>2,381</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>30,001</td>
<td>2,221,446</td>
</tr>
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<td>1,187</td>
<td>97,135</td>
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</tr>
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<td>69,840</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5,035</td>
<td>1,092</td>
<td>61,427</td>
<td>3,489,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>1,934(^3)</td>
<td>342(^4)</td>
<td>20,646(^5)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>6,649</td>
<td>2,199</td>
<td>75,134</td>
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<td>8,125</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>11,023</td>
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<td>3,820,396</td>
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<td>6,086</td>
<td>1,614</td>
<td>81,551</td>
<td>3,421,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>4,846</td>
<td>1,614</td>
<td>68,416</td>
<td>4,138,588</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Annual average weight per fish used to estimate total weight (2002 average weight was 13.4 pounds.).
\(^2\) Chinook salmon eggs harvested for hatchery production, does not include eggs sold for bait.
\(^3\) Low stream flow and low Lake Michigan conditions limited the ability of salmon to reach the Strawberry Creek Weir. Less than 50% (998) of the Chinook accounted for were captured alive.
\(^4\) An additional 193 dead Chinook with an adipose fin clip were observed in Strawberry Creek but were not collected because of the advanced stage of decomposition.
\(^5\) Total weight of harvested Chinook was heavily influenced by low water flow in Strawberry Creek, which prevented many Chinook especially older, larger individuals from reaching the pond.
Appendix B.-Average, trophy, and standard weights, in pounds, of Chinook salmon harvested at the Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, 1974-2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Of Return</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>Average Weight¹</th>
<th>Trophy Weight² (95th%)</th>
<th>Standard Weight³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>1,237</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>344</td>
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<td>29.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1,640</td>
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<td>2,725</td>
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</tr>
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<td>4,014</td>
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<td>14.7</td>
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¹ Average weight of all Chinook salmon weighed in a season during harvest operations at Strawberry Creek.
² Trophy weight is defined as the weight of a Chinook salmon at the 95th percentile in a distribution of all Chinook weights collected during a harvest season at Strawberry Creek.
³ Standard weight is defined as the predicted weight of a 30 inch Chinook salmon using a length/weight regression of all fish weighed during a harvest season at Strawberry Creek.
⁴ Average weight, and trophy weight of Chinook returning to Strawberry Creek in the fall of 1999 was heavily influenced by low flow conditions in Strawberry Creek. Most of the older, larger Chinook were unable to negotiate Strawberry Creek and enter the pond.
Appendix C.- Age composition by sex and year of return of CWT Chinook salmon released from and recaptured in Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, 1983-2003.

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1Age composition of Chinook returning to Strawberry Creek in the fall of 1999 was heavily influenced by low flow conditions in Strawberry Creek. Most of the older, larger Chinook were unable to negotiate Strawberry Creek and enter the pond.
Appendix D.-Average length (mm) by age, sex, and year of return of CWT Chinook salmon released from and recaptured at Strawberry Creek, 1983-2003.

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1 Thiamine treated salmon (standard production as of 1996)
2 Single paired family age 3+ male and age 3+ female
3 Single paired family age 3+ male and age 2+ female
4 Marking study ARV clip with CWT
5 Marking study A-CWT with photonic mark
6 Marking study ALV clip with CWT
7 Marking study CWT with no clip
Appendix E.-Average weight (kg) by age, sex, and year of return of CWT Chinook salmon released from and recaptured at Strawberry Creek, 1983-2003.

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</table>

| 1984 | M | W (sd) | 2.0 (0.3) | 5.6 (1.1) | -  | -  | -  |
| Range n | 1.3-2.5 | 2.4-7.8 | 20 | 43 | -  | -  |
| F | W (sd) | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |
| Range n | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |

| 1985 | M | W (sd) | 2.1 (0.5) | 5.4 (1.0) | 7.6 (1.7) | -  | -  |
| Range n | 1.1-3.6 | 4.4-6.2 | 46 | 29 | 205 | -  |
| F | W (sd) | -  | 4.7 (0.8) | 7.0 (1.5) | -  | -  |
| Range n | -  | 4.1-5.3 | 2.9-11.5 | 2  | 180 | -  |

| 1986 | M | W (sd) | 2.1 (0.3) | 4.8 (1.0) | 6.6 (1.1) | 6.6 (1.2) | -  |
| Range n | 1.4-2.7 | 3.0-6.5 | 24 | 37 | 57 | 21 |
| F | W (sd) | -  | 3.5-6.3 | 3.7-8.9 | 4.9-11.5 | -  |
| Range n | -  | 10 | 59 | 58 | -  | -  |

| 1987 | M | W (sd) | 2.3 (0.4) | 5.4 (1.0) | 6.8 (1.3) | 6.5 (2.3) | -  |
| Range n | 1.6-3.5 | 2.5-7.3 | 82 | 142 | 21 | -  |
| F | W (sd) | -  | 5.2 (0.9) | 6.6 (1.1) | 6.8 (1.1) | 5.1 |
| Range n | -  | 3.6-7.2 | 3.7-9.6 | 10 | 58 | -  |

| 1988 | M | W (sd) | 2.1 (0.3) | 5.7 (1.3) | 7.1 (1.4) | 6.7 (1.5) | 5.5 |
| Range n | 1.3-3.1 | 2.5-8.3 | 50 | 94 | 21 | -  |
| F | W (sd) | 1.8 | 5.1 (1.0) | 6.7 (1.3) | 6.1 (1.3) | 5.4 (1.0) |
| Range n | -  | 3.4-6.4 | 3.4-11.3 | 1  | 12 | 2  |

| 1989 | M | W (sd) | 2.4 (0.5) | 5.6 (1.1) | 7.6 (1.9) | 8.0 (1.7) | -  |
| Range n | 1.5-5.7 | 3.9-8.1 | 153 | 28 | 10 | 6  |
| F | W (sd) | -  | 6.2 (1.0) | 7.7 (1.6) | 6.9 (2.6) | -  |
| Range n | -  | 5.5-8.0 | 4.5-11.4 | 27 | 5 | -  |

<p>| 1990 | M | W (sd) | 2.1 (0.3) | 6.3 (1.2) | 8.4 (1.8) | 8.9 (1.9) | 2.6 |
| Range n | 1.4-2.8 | 3.1-10.4 | 54 | 199 | 35 | 4  |
| F | W (sd) | -  | 6.6 (1.0) | 8.7 (1.4) | 8.9 (1.8) | -  |
| Range n | -  | 4.2-9.6 | 5.8-11.9 | 31 | 3 | -  |</p>
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2. Single paired family age 3+ male and age 3+ female
3. Single paired family age 3+ male and age 2+ female
4. Marking study ARV clip with CWT
5. Marking study A-CWT with photonic mark
6. Marking study ALV clip with CWT
7. Marking study CWT with no clip
Appendix F.-Return rate of CWT Chinook salmon at age and by year class to the Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, for year classes 1982 through 2002. In fall 1999, return of the 1995 year class at age 4+, 1996 year class at age 3+, 1997 year class at age 2+, and 1998 year class at age 1+, (highlighted in light blue for the reader’s convenience) were heavily influenced by low flow in Strawberry Creek and low Lake Michigan levels. No comparisons should be made between the return rates of the various year classes captured in the fall of 1999 and other years. Return rates for the fall of 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003, were not influenced by the low flow and are more typical of normal return rates. Return rates for the 1995 through 2000 year classes are pooled rates of multiple study lots of CWT fingerlings released from Strawberry Creek. Return rates of the individual lots (1995-2000) will be discussed as they relate to the various ongoing CWT studies. Return rates for fall 2003 are shaded yellow for the reader’s convenience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR CLASS</th>
<th>AGE AT RETURN</th>
<th>CUMULATIVE RETURN BY YEAR CLASS</th>
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<td>0.24</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0.11</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>0.05</td>
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<td>0.64</td>
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</tr>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>0.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
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<td>0.83</td>
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<td>0.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>0.19</td>
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Appendix G.-Estimated number of Chinook salmon by age returning to Strawberry Creek, Door County, and percent return by year class for ages 1+ through 4+ for the 1982 – 2002 year classes. For the years 1982 through 1990, rate of return is based on the number of fingerlings stocked into the pond at Strawberry Creek and does not account for subsequent mortalities. For the years 1991 through present the number stocked reflects the number believed to have been successfully released from the pond. This table includes CWT and non-CWT Chinook based on a length at age key developed from known aged, CWT Chinook returning to Strawberry Creek each harvest year. Return of the 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998 year classes of Chinook in fall 1999 (shaded light blue for the reader’s convenience) was heavily influenced by low flow in Strawberry Creek and low Lake Michigan levels. No comparisons should be made between the return rates of the various year classes captured in the fall of 1999 and other years. Return rates for 2003 are shaded yellow for the reader’s convenience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR CLASS</th>
<th>AGE AT RETURN</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER RETURNED</th>
<th>NUMBER STOCKED (1,000’S)</th>
<th>TOTAL PERCENT RETURN</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>362 539 3,281 1,257</td>
<td>5,439</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>490 359 1,791 890</td>
<td>3,530</td>
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<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>359 572 4,271 212</td>
<td>5,414</td>
<td>350.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>191 1,027 1,940 112</td>
<td>3,270</td>
<td>339.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>616 455 430 60</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>300.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>394 287 633 20</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>275.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>765 1,930 842 35</td>
<td>3,572</td>
<td>225.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>392 490 861 40</td>
<td>1,783</td>
<td>250.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>607 1,291 1,110 17</td>
<td>3,025</td>
<td>250.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>1,399 2,180 1,160 0</td>
<td>4,739</td>
<td>220.0 (^1)</td>
<td>2.2 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>634 2,032 672 50</td>
<td>3,388</td>
<td>125.0 (^1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>599 1,051 2,360 127</td>
<td>4,137</td>
<td>130.0 (^1)</td>
<td>3.2 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>569 2,923 1,796 47</td>
<td>5,335</td>
<td>157.0 (^1)</td>
<td>3.4 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>867 1,784 1,610 6</td>
<td>4,267</td>
<td>213.0 (^1)</td>
<td>2.0 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>618 2,949 162 160</td>
<td>3,889</td>
<td>210.5 (^1)</td>
<td>1.8 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>337 313 1,885 70</td>
<td>2,605</td>
<td>211.6 (^1)</td>
<td>1.2 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>361 1,664 1,296 22</td>
<td>3,343</td>
<td>210.5 (^1)</td>
<td>1.6 (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>2,787 5,627 5,706 70</td>
<td>14,190</td>
<td>211.7 (^1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>892 3,111 2,887</td>
<td>6,890</td>
<td>198.0 (^1)</td>
<td>3.5 (^1,3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1,675 2,658</td>
<td>4,333</td>
<td>205.2 (^1)</td>
<td>2.1 (^2,4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>203.5 (^1)</td>
<td>0.2 (^2,5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Corrected for the number of Chinook salmon actually believed to have been successfully released from the Strawberry creek pond.  
\(^2\) Percent based on the number of Chinook fingerlings successfully released, not the number stocked into the Strawberry Creek pond.  
\(^3\) Percent return based on age 1+ through age 3+.  
\(^4\) Percent return based on age 1+ through age 2+.  
\(^5\) Percent return based on age 1+.  

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Appendix H.-Summary of Chinook salmon stocking densities and average size of CWT and non-CWT Chinook fingerlings when stocked into and released from the pond at the Strawberry Creek Weir, Door County, 1982-2003. Information for the 2003 year class is shaded yellow for the reader’s convenience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>CWT CHINOOK STOCKED AT STRAWBERRY CREEK</th>
<th>NON-CWT CHINOOK STOCKED AT STRAWBERRY CREEK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>NUMBER CWT’S STOCKED</td>
<td>SAMPLE TIME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Stocking 20,000</td>
<td>Stocking 81.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Stocking 83.6</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Release 93.7</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Stocking 83.7</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Release 92.4</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>7.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>Stocking 79.0</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Release 95.7</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>7.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>Stocking 81.0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Release 94.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
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<td>Stocking 69.6</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>28,850</td>
<td>Stocking 81.7</td>
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<td>NON-CWT CHINOOK STOCKED AT STRAWBERRY CREEK</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NUMBER CWT'S STOCKED</td>
<td>SAMPLE TIME</td>
<td>AVERAGE LENGTH (mm)</td>
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<td>26,450 Stocking</td>
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<td>22,646 Stocking</td>
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<td>25,697 Stocking</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Release</td>
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<td>77</td>
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<td>87</td>
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<td>24,600 Stocking</td>
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<tr>
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<td>42,491 Stocking</td>
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<td>25,619 Stocking</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22,785 Stocking</td>
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<td>22,697 Stocking</td>
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<td>8,317 Stocking</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>24,943 Stocking</td>
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<tr>
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<td>26,241 Stocking</td>
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<td>27,301 Stocking</td>
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<td>24,696 Stocking</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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Appendix H.-Continued.

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stocking</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>99,968</td>
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</tr>
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<td>100</td>
<td>5/23/02</td>
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<td>101</td>
<td>5/20/03</td>
<td>Release</td>
<td>93.7</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Fingerlings treated with methyltestosterone in an attempt to sterilize them (stocked in 1986-88).
2. Includes regular and sterile A CWT Chinook salmon.
3. First year that a moist pellet diet was fed to Chinook fingerlings while in the pond.
4. In 1991 an estimated 220,000 Chinook were released from the Strawberry Creek pond (includes A CWT and non-CWT combined).
5. In 1992 an estimated 125,000 Chinook were released from the Strawberry Creek pond (includes A CWT and non-CWT combined) losses due to escapement and bird predation.
6. In 1993 an estimated 130,000 Chinook were released from the Strawberry Creek pond (includes A CWT and non-CWT combined) losses due to escapement and gill disease.
7. In 1994 an estimated 157,000 Chinook (131,000 standard production and 26,000 A CWT) were released from the Strawberry Creek pond.
8. Beginning in the fall of 1994 all Chinook eggs (other than thiamine study control eggs) were water hardened in thiamine to reduce EMS.
9. In 1995 an estimated 213,000 Chinook (165,000 standard production, 25,000 A CWT treated and 22,500 A CWT non treated) were released from the Strawberry Creek pond.
10. In 1996 an estimated 210,000 Chinook (160,000 standard production, 24,500 A CWT treated and 26,000 A CWT non treated) were released from the Strawberry Creek pond.
11. In the fall of 1996 and 1997 a limited number of known age Chinook were spawned as single paired families (SPF) to produce fingerlings from known aged parents.
12. In 1997 an estimated 211,600 Chinook (143,000 standard production, 25,800 regular A CWT and 42,400 SPF A CWT) were released from the Strawberry Creek pond.
13. In 1998 an estimated 210,500 Chinook (140,000 standard production, 25,500 regular A CWT and 45,000 SPF A CWT) were released from the Strawberry Creek pond.
14. In 1999 an estimated 211,700 Chinook (137,000 standard production, 24,900 regular A-CWT, 25,000 RV A-CWT, 8,300 A-CWT pink photonic, 8,300 A-CWT green photonic, and 8,200 A-CWT orange photonic) were released from the SCW pond.
15. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure) and a pink photonic mark in the anal fin.
16. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure) and a green photonic mark in the anal fin.
17. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure) and an orange photonic mark in the anal fin.
18. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure) and a RV fin clip.
19. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure).
20. In 2000 an estimated 198,000 Chinook (119,000 standard production, 26,000 regular A CWT, 26,000 ALV CWT and 27,000 no clip CWT) were netted from the Strawberry Creek pond and trucked for release in the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal.
21. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure).
22. Fingerlings with a CWT (and an adipose fin clip as per standard procedure) and a LV fin clip.
23. Fingerlings with a CWT only (no adipose fin clip as per standard procedure).
24. In 2001 an estimated 205,182 Chinook (180,582 standard production, 24,600 regular A CWT) were netted from the Strawberry Creek pond and trucked for release in the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal.
25. In 2001, 2002, and 2003 all Chinook fingerlings stocked into Lake Michigan by the WDNR and other agencies were to be marked with OTC. Subsequent evaluation indicated that Chinook fingerlings treated with OTC by WDNR hatcheries in 2001 were poorly marked.
26. Mean length and weight at release was from a comingled sample of CWT and non-CWT fingerlings.
27. In 2002 an estimated 203,500 Chinook (178,900 standard production and 24,600 regular A CWT) were released from the SCW pond.
28. In 2003 an estimated 152,000 Chinook (124,000 standard production and 28,000 ARV clipped) were released from the SCW pond.
Appendix I.-Summary of 22 adipose clipped Chinook salmon harvested at the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility, fall 2003. The Chinook released in the Kewaunee River were part of a Chinook fingerling stocking evaluation. The Chinook released at all other sites were strays to the Kewaunee River.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>LOCATION OF RELEASE</th>
<th>AGE AT CAPTURE</th>
<th>STOCKING AGENCY</th>
<th>NUMBER HARVESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medusa Creek, Lake Mich Au Gres River, Lake Huron</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>MICH DNR</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Au Gres River, Lake Huron</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>MICH DNR</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry Creek, WI&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Kewaunee River (Harbor)&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kewaunee River (BAFF)&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kewaunee River (Clyde’s)&lt;sup&gt;5&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>WIS DNR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Regular production CWT fingerlings (controls) stocked at Strawberry Creek.
2 Fingerlings from a marking technique study conducted at Strawberry Creek (A-CWT and LV clip).
3 Stocking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked in the Kewaunee Harbor near the mouth of the Kewaunee River.
4 Stocking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked in the Kewaunee River near the BAFF approximately four miles upstream from Lake Michigan.
5 Stocking technique study Chinook fingerlings stocked in the Kewaunee River at Clyde’s Hill Road crossing approximately nine miles upstream from Lake Michigan.
Appendix J.-Summary of Chinook salmon stocking densities, strain, and average size of CWT and non-CWT salmon fingerlings at stocking into the Kewaunee River 1984-2003. All fish sampled at release.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>CWT CHINOOK STOCKED IN KEWAUNEE RIVER</th>
<th>NON-CWT CHINOOK STOCKED IN KEWAUNEE RIVER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NUMBER CWT’S STOCKED</td>
<td>STRAIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>311,500</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>190,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>190,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>133,497</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>22,345</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21,920</td>
<td>L. Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>21,643</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21,898</td>
<td>L. Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>16,905</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22,875</td>
<td>L. Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>70,118</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>24,354</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>25,443</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,533</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,529</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,586</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>22,037</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,473</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,515</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24,354</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
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</table>
Appendix J. Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Survival</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>107,635</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
<td>83.8(^{a})</td>
<td>5.1(^{a})</td>
<td>5/4/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>21,374</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5/18/01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>61,009</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5/24/01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
<td>88.9(^{a})</td>
<td>6.0(^{a})</td>
<td>5/9/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>57,600</td>
<td>L. Mich.</td>
<td>86.4(^{a})</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked into and released from a rearing pond approximately three miles upstream from Lake Michigan).
2 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked directly into the Kewaunee River approximately nine miles upstream from Lake Michigan).
3 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked directly into Lake Michigan near the mouth of the Kewaunee River).
4 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked into the Kewaunee Harbor near Lake Michigan).
5 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked into the Kewaunee River near BAFF approximately four miles upstream from Lake Michigan).
6 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked into the Kewaunee River at Clyde’s Hill Road crossing approximately nine miles upstream from Lake Michigan).
7 Chinook fingerlings stocked as part of a stocking technique study (stocked into the Kewaunee River at Hwy. 54 crossing approximately 15 miles upstream from Lake Michigan).
8 Estimated from hatchery weight count at stocking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>NUMBER STOCKED</th>
<th>AGE AT STOCKING (YEAR CLASS)</th>
<th>CLIP</th>
<th>SOURCE OF EGGS</th>
<th>STUDY</th>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>126,429</td>
<td>Fingerling (87) Yearling (86)</td>
<td>LV</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Accelerated Standard Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50,400</td>
<td></td>
<td>NC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>51,040</td>
<td>Yearling (87) Fingerling (88)</td>
<td>ARV</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Accelerated Standard Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>119,502</td>
<td>Fingerling (88) Fingerling (88)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>146,680</td>
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<td>LP</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Age &amp; Growth Standard Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>72,555</td>
<td>Fingerling (90) Fingerling (90)</td>
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<td>Lake Superior</td>
<td>Strain Evaluation Standard Production</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>875</td>
<td>Fingerling (90) Fingerling (90)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Strain Evaluation Standard Production</td>
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<td>59,010</td>
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<td>LP</td>
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<td>Strain Evaluation Standard Production</td>
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<td>LV</td>
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<td>Control/Erythromycin</td>
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<td>BV</td>
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<td>Control/Erythromycin</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>62,131</td>
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<td>Control/Erythromycin</td>
</tr>
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<td>Control/Erythromycin</td>
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<td>1993</td>
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<td>57,587</td>
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<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>LMLP</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production Fingerling/Yearling Hyper Accelerated</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
</tr>
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<td>130,516</td>
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<td>LP</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Hyper Accelerated</td>
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<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>5,280</td>
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<td>Lake Ontario</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Ontario</td>
<td>Standard Production Control/Erythromycin</td>
</tr>
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<td>LMRP</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Fingerling/Yearling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Fingerling/Yearling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
</tr>
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<td>Yearling (95) Yearling (95)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Treatment/Thiamine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Control/Thiamine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>49,878</td>
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<td>LMRV</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Fingerling/Yearling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>66,486</td>
<td>Fingerling (96) Fingerling (96)</td>
<td>LMR</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Fingerling/Yearling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>40,950</td>
<td>Yearling (96) Yearling (96)</td>
<td>BV</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Control/Erythromycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Treatment/Thiamine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,220</td>
<td>Yearling (96) Yearling (96)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Control/Thiamine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Yearling (96) Yearling (96)</td>
<td>RM</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Fingerling/Yearling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>50,155</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
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<td>Lake Michigan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Fingerling (99) Fingerling (99)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50,120</td>
<td>Fingerling (99) Fingerlings (00)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>141,130</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>Standard Production</td>
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<td>Yearling (02) Fingerlings (03)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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<tr>
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<td>67,223</td>
<td>Fingerlings (02) Fingerlings (03)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Lake Michigan</td>
<td>Standard Production</td>
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</table>
Appendix L.-Estimated rate of recovery of Coho salmon at the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility, through fall 2003. Unclipped (NC) fish were aged by length frequency distribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Year Stocked (season)</th>
<th>Stocking Technique</th>
<th>Number Stocked</th>
<th>Clip</th>
<th>% Recovery Rate (number)</th>
<th>Cumulative Recovery Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Production Yearlings</td>
<td>68,297</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>0.271 (185)</td>
<td>3.751 (2,562)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Hyper Accelerated</td>
<td>130,516</td>
<td>LP</td>
<td>0.026 (34)</td>
<td>0.036 (47)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>(fall)</td>
<td>F/Y Study Fingerlings</td>
<td>60,822</td>
<td>LMLP</td>
<td>0.120 (73)</td>
<td>1.130 (687)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>F/Y Study Yearlings</td>
<td>59,400</td>
<td>LMRP</td>
<td>0.557 (331)</td>
<td>2.109 (1,253)</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Erythromycin Study</td>
<td>32,154</td>
<td>BV</td>
<td>0.809 (260)</td>
<td>4.261 (1,370)</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Production Yearlings</td>
<td>34,126</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>1.301 (444)</td>
<td>2.403 (820)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>(fall)</td>
<td>F/Y Study Fingerlings</td>
<td>54,808</td>
<td>LMLV</td>
<td>0.100 (55)</td>
<td>0.704 (386)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Thiamine Study/treated</td>
<td>20,595</td>
<td>A/CWT</td>
<td>0.112 (23)</td>
<td>0.452 (93)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Thiamine Study/controls</td>
<td>19,083</td>
<td>A/CWT</td>
<td>0.152 (29)</td>
<td>0.865 (165)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>F/Y Study Yearlings</td>
<td>49,878</td>
<td>LMRV</td>
<td>0.088 (44)</td>
<td>0.728 (363)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Production Yearlings</td>
<td>29,718</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>0.087 (26)</td>
<td>0.538 (160)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>(fall)</td>
<td>F/Y Study Fingerlings</td>
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<td>LM</td>
<td>0.024 (16)</td>
<td>0.508 (338)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>F/Y Study Yearlings</td>
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<td>RM</td>
<td>0.021 (13)</td>
<td>0.402 (253)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Thiamine Study/treated</td>
<td>18,800</td>
<td>A/CWT</td>
<td>0.096 (18)</td>
<td>0.899 (169)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Thiamine Study/controls</td>
<td>20,220</td>
<td>A/CWT</td>
<td>0.049 (10)</td>
<td>0.663 (134)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>(spring)</td>
<td>Erythromycin Controls</td>
<td>40,950</td>
<td>BV</td>
<td>0.002 (1)</td>
<td>0.105 (43)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>(fall)</td>
<td>Production Fing/year</td>
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<td>0.110 (194)</td>
<td>0.850 (1,502)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>1998</td>
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<td>Production Fing/year</td>
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Length mm (SD)

Range

Sample size

Weight kg (SD)

Range

Sample size
### Appendix M.-Continued.

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