

D. McLeod 1993
L. Preston

Prairie Creek, Humboldt Co.
(Field Note)

Tributary to: Redwood Creek
Date of Survey: August 15, 1993
Purpose of Survey: Spot-check electrofishing to determine relative abundance of fish species
Location: Mouth located T11N, R1E, Sec. 34 HB&M
Method of Survey: Electrofishing
Equipment Used: Smith-Root Model 12 electrofisher
Surveyors: D. McLeod, L. Preston

Observations: Three small sections of Prairie Creek were spot-checked to determine relative abundance of salmonids. We had received reports of juvenile chinook still residing in lower Prairie Creek. Areas sampled were:

Davison Road - Approximately 2 miles upstream of the mouth. Three to four pools were sampled in an area approximately 150 feet long. Three chinook were collected. Forklengths were 80, 82, and 84 mm. One individual was adipose fin clipped from an earlier release of 62,410 (all CWT) from the Caltrans mitigation rearing program. Seventeen steelhead, one coastal cutthroat trout, two coho, stickleback and prickly sculpin were also collected. Salmonid histogram is attached.

May Creek - Prairie Creek upstream of May Creek approximately 4 miles upstream of the mouth. A riffle/run area was sampled in an area approximately 350 feet long. Some woody debris was present. Eleven coho and ten steelhead were collected (see histogram). Water temperature was 57 degrees F. at 1300 hours.

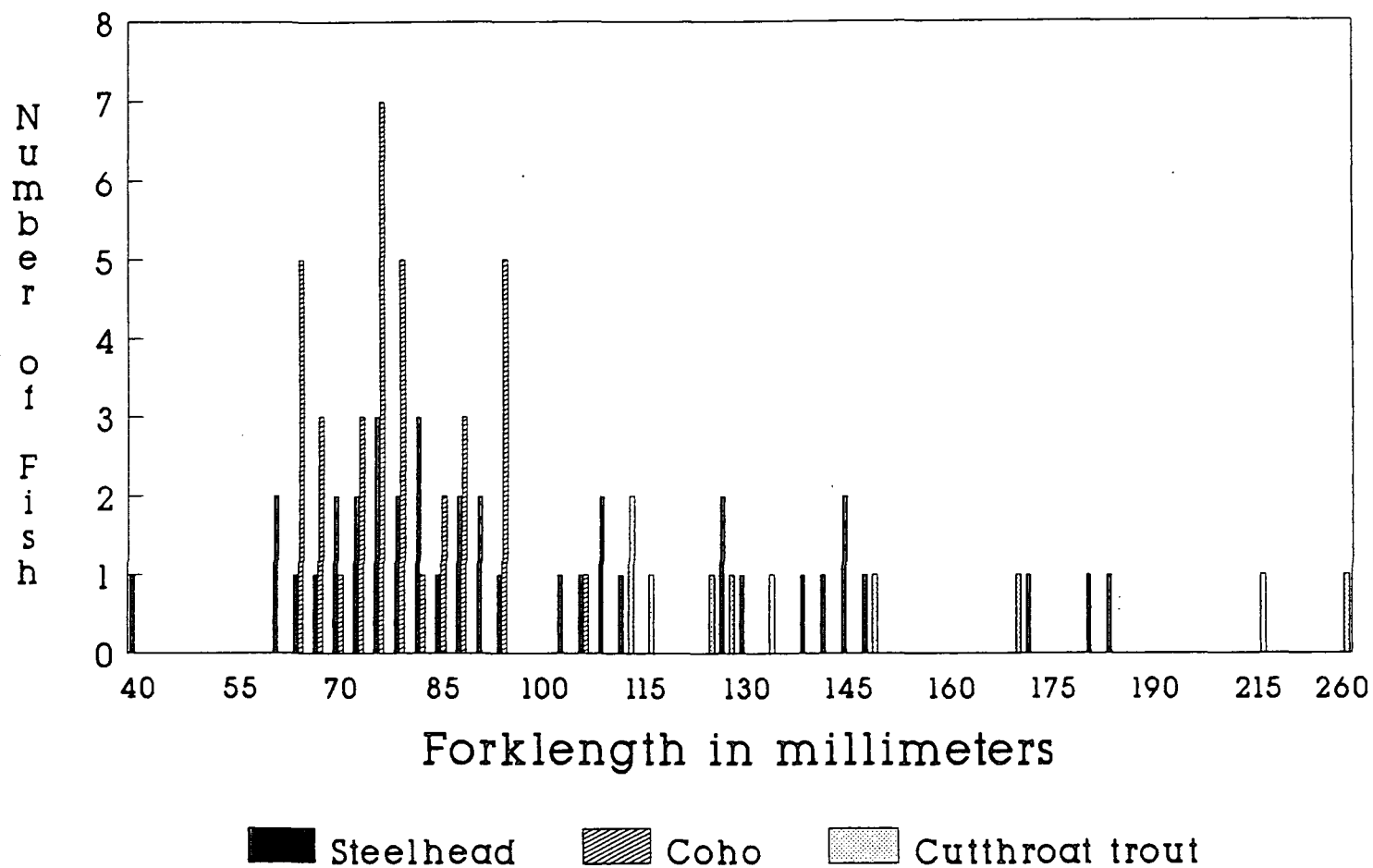
Corkscrew tree - Approximately 7 miles upstream of the mouth. Sampled were main channel pools, and one backwater pool. There were also cutbanks. Approximately 175 feet was spot-checked. A total of nine coastal cutthroat trout, 23 coho, and 12 steelhead were collected (see histogram).

The coho could have been either naturally produced or been planted from the Caltrans mitigation rearing program. They appeared to be in good condition.

Written by: David A. McLeod
Associate Fishery Biologist

cc: Redding

Prairie Creek



August 15, 1993