Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan (*RSP*)

Wild Fish Monitoring Summaries

2022–2023

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

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Disclaimer

Section I. Rogue–South Coast Winter Steelhead SMU

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Coastal Winter Steelhead Multiple Population Aggregate

Abundance

The Coastal Stratum juvenile steelhead (Age-1+) abundance index is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. The index is based on visual underwater snorkel pool counts in randomly selected sites. Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table I-1. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Coastal Stratum juvenile steelhead (Age-1+) abundance index metric.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Juvenile Steelhead Abundance Index	2021	67,812	65,799	≥ 80,000	72,212	< 40,000
	2022	85,393	64,892		76,603	

Spatial Structure

Coastal Stratum juvenile steelhead (Age-1+) site occupancy is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. Site occupancy is the percentage of randomly selected snorkel survey sites (same sites used for the abundance index described above) with observed presence of Age-1+ juvenile winter steelhead. Progress toward desired status (site occupancy ≥ 90%) is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold (site occupancy < 75%).

Table I-2. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Coastal Stratum juvenile steelhead (Age-1+) site occupancy metric.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Juvenile Steelhead Site Occupancy	2021	97%	96%	≥ 90%	99%	< 75%
	2022	100%	98%		99%	

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Elk River Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.A.2 in the RSP is the initiation of spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in Coastal Stratum populations. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-3. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles), average number of steelhead redds per mile in survey sites, and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Elk River population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Redds / Mile	Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles		
Elk River	2022	5	11.05	22.7	1,772
	2023	5	11.05	N/A	N/A[1]

[1] In 2023, abundance estimates could not be generated for coastal populations due to adverse weather conditions. A large portion of surveys could not be accessed from late February to the end of March due to snow or downed trees. In surveys that were accessible, water conditions were too high or turbid to conduct surveys in most cases.

Harvest

The RSP established wild steelhead harvest rate limits for individual winter steelhead populations in the Coastal Stratum. Harvest rates will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-4. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Elk River population (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Elk River	<10%	2022	30	1.7%
		2023	43	N/A

Hatchery Influence

The Elk River does not have a hatchery winter steelhead program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan even if they do not have hatchery programs. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated every few years utilizing snorkel surveys as is conducted annually on the Chetco River. ODFW expects that winter spawning ground surveys in the Elk River will typically provide few observations of live and dead steelhead where hatchery or wild origin can be determined. Therefore, snorkel surveys will be used periodically to determine pHOS.

Table I-5. Elk River winter steelhead pHOS estimates.

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	Surveys	Observations	pHOS Estimate
Elk River	10%	2022	None	N/A	N/A
		2023	None	N/A	N/A

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Euchre Creek Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.A.2 in the RSP is the initiation of spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in Coastal Stratum populations. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-6. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles), average number of steelhead redds per mile in survey sites, and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Euchre Creek population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Redds / Mile	Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles		
Euchre Creek	2022	4	5.6	17.9	563
	2023	4	5.6	N/A	N/A[1]

[1] In 2023, abundance estimates could not be generated for coastal populations due to adverse weather conditions. A large portion of surveys could not be accessed from late February to the end of March due to snow or downed trees. In surveys that were accessible, water conditions were too high or turbid to conduct surveys in most cases.

Harvest

The RSP established wild steelhead harvest rate limits for individual winter steelhead populations in the Coastal Stratum. Harvest rates will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-7. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Euchre Creek population.

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Euchre Creek	<10%	2022	0	0%
		2023	0	0%

Hatchery Influence

Euchre Creek does not have a hatchery winter steelhead program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan even if they do not have hatchery programs. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated every few years utilizing snorkel surveys as is conducted annually on the Chetco River. ODFW expects that winter spawning ground surveys in Euchre Creek will typically provide few observations of live and dead steelhead where hatchery or wild origin can be determined. Therefore, snorkel surveys will be used periodically to determine pHOS.

Table I-8. Euchre Creek winter steelhead pHOS estimates.

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	Surveys	Observations	pHOS Estimate
Euchre Creek	10%	2022	None	N/A	N/A
		2023	None	N/A	N/A

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Hunter Creek Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.A.2 in the RSP is the initiation of spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in Coastal Stratum populations. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-9. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles), average number of steelhead redds per mile in survey sites, and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Hunter Creek population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Redds / Mile	Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles		
Hunter Creek	2022	7	5.89	16.0	374
	2023	7	5.89	N/A	N/A[1]

[1] In 2023, abundance estimates could not be generated for coastal populations due to adverse weather conditions. A large portion of surveys could not be accessed from late February to the end of March due to snow or downed trees. In surveys that were accessible, water conditions were too high or turbid to conduct surveys in most cases.

Harvest

The RSP established wild steelhead harvest rate limits for individual winter steelhead populations in the Coastal Stratum. Harvest rates will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-10. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Hunter Creek population (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Hunter Creek	<10%	2022	18	4.6%
		2023	6	N/A

Hatchery Influence

Hunter Creek does not have a hatchery winter steelhead program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan even if they do not have hatchery programs. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated every few years utilizing snorkel surveys as is conducted annually on the Chetco River. ODFW expects that winter spawning ground surveys in Hunter Creek will typically provide few observations of live and dead steelhead where hatchery or wild origin can be determined. Therefore, snorkel surveys will be used periodically to determine pHOS.

Table I-11. Hunter Creek winter steelhead pHOS estimates.

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	Surveys	Observations	pHOS Estimate
Hunter Creek	10%	2022	None	N/A	N/A
		2023	None	N/A	N/A

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Pistol River Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.A.2 in the RSP is the initiation of spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in Coastal Stratum populations. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-12. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles), average number of steelhead redds per mile in survey sites, and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Pistol River population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Redds / Mile	Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles		
Pistol River	2022	7	6.92	25.4	1,549
	2023	7	6.92	N/A	N/A[1]

[1] In 2023, abundance estimates could not be generated for coastal populations due to adverse weather conditions. A large portion of surveys could not be accessed from late February to the end of March due to snow or downed trees. In surveys that were accessible, water conditions were too high or turbid to conduct surveys in most cases.

Harvest

The RSP established wild steelhead harvest rate limits for individual winter steelhead populations in the Coastal Stratum. Harvest rates will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-13. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Pistol River population (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Pistol River	<10%	2022	61	3.8%
		2023	43	N/A

Hatchery Influence

The Pistol River does not have a hatchery winter steelhead program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan even if they do not have hatchery programs. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated every few years utilizing snorkel surveys as is conducted annually on the Chetco River. ODFW expects that winter spawning ground surveys in the Pistol River will typically provide few observations of live and dead steelhead where hatchery or wild origin can be determined. Therefore, snorkel surveys will be used periodically to determine pHOS.

Table I-14. Pistol River winter steelhead pHOS estimates.

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	Surveys	Observations	pHOS Estimate
Pistol River	10%	2022	None	N/A	N/A
		2023	None	N/A	N/A

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Chetco River Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.A.2 in the RSP is the initiation of spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in Coastal Stratum populations. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-15. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles), average number of steelhead redds per mile in survey sites, and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Chetco River population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Redds / Mile	Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles		
Chetco River	2022	14	13.92	33.8	7,364
	2023	14	13.92	N/A	N/A[1]

[1] In 2023, abundance estimates could not be generated for coastal populations due to adverse weather conditions. A large portion of surveys could not be accessed from late February to the end of March due to snow or downed trees. In surveys that were accessible, water conditions were too high or turbid to conduct surveys in most cases.

Harvest

The RSP established wild steelhead harvest rate limits for individual winter steelhead populations in the Coastal Stratum. Harvest rates will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-16. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Chetco River population (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Chetco River	<15%	2022	490	6.2%
		2023	143	N/A

Hatchery Influence

The Chetco River has a hatchery winter steelhead program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated annually as a multi-year average based on available information to determine if any adaptive management is needed. ODFW expects that winter spawning ground surveys in the Chetco River will typically provide few observations of live and dead steelhead where hatchery or wild origin can be determined. Therefore, snorkel surveys will be conducted annually in the North Fork Chetco River, Emily Creek, and the South Fork Chetco River to determine pHOS (***Action V.A.3***).

Table I-17. Chetco River winter steelhead pHOS estimates.

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	pHOS Estimate
Chetco River	10%	2022	2.3%
		2023[1]	8.1%

[1] In 2023, snorkel surveys could not be conducted throughout the season due to adverse weather conditions.

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Winchuck River Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.A.2 in the RSP is the initiation of spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in Coastal Stratum populations. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-18. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles), average number of steelhead redds per mile in survey sites, and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Winchuck River population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Redds / Mile	Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles		
Winchuck River	2022	9	16.28	23.8	1,537
	2023	9	16.28	N/A	N/A[1]

[1] In 2023, abundance estimates could not be generated for coastal populations due to adverse weather conditions. A large portion of surveys could not be accessed from late February to the end of March due to snow or downed trees. In surveys that were accessible, water conditions were too high or turbid to conduct surveys in most cases.

Harvest

The RSP established wild steelhead harvest rate limits for individual winter steelhead populations in the Coastal Stratum. Harvest rates will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-19. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Winchuck River population (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Winchuck River	<10%	2022	20	1.3%
		2023	17	N/A

Hatchery Influence

The Winchuck River does not have a hatchery winter steelhead program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan even if they do not have hatchery programs. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated every few years utilizing snorkel surveys as is conducted annually on the Chetco River. ODFW expects that winter spawning ground surveys in the Winchuck River will typically provide few observations of live and dead steelhead where hatchery or wild origin can be determined. Therefore, snorkel surveys will be used periodically to determine pHOS.

Table I-20. Winchuck River winter steelhead pHOS estimates.

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	Surveys	Observations	pHOS Estimate
Winchuck River	10%	2022	None	N/A	N/A
		2023	1	91	2.2%

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Rogue

Population: Rogue Winter Steelhead Multiple Population Aggregate

Abundance

The Huntley Park wild half-pounder steelhead count is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. This index is the total number of wild half-pounders caught during Huntley Park seining from July-October. Historically, half-pounder counts at Huntley Park have been strongly correlated with wild winter steelhead counts at Gold Ray Dam (Upper Rogue population) 2–3 years later (RSP 2021). Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table I-21. Annual counts and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Huntley Park wild half-pounder metric.

Metric	Year	Count	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Wild Half-Pounders at Huntley Park	2021	1,593	1,116	≥ 1,000	1,160	< 300
	2022	226	953		910	
	2023	344	681		285	

Research and Monitoring Action V.B.7 is the initiation of annual creel surveys in the lower Rogue winter steelhead fishery to monitor harvest, effort, and the proportion of wild and hatchery steelhead caught in the fishery (including steelhead caught and released). This data is intended to be used, in combination with Rogue Basin harvest data and hatchery trap returns, to estimate wild steelhead abundance for Rogue Stratum populations in aggregate. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-22. Estimated percentage of wild and hatchery steelhead in the catch of the lower Rogue winter steelhead fishery and estimated abundance of wild winter steelhead in the Rogue Stratum.

Year	Lower Rogue Fishery		Rogue Stratum Wild Winter Steelhead
	% Wild	% Hatchery	
2022	75[1]	25	9,534
2023	N/A[2]	N/A	N/A

[1] Due to staffing constraints, creel surveys in 2022 did not encompass the entire winter steelhead fishing season and likely underestimated the percentage of wild steelhead in the catch. As a result, wild winter steelhead abundance in the Rogue Stratum was likely underestimated in 2022.

[2] Creel surveys were conducted in the lower Rogue River in 2023; however, surveys did not produce a reliable estimate of the wild: hatchery ratio because of low overall effort and catch due to river flow conditions that were not conducive to winter steelhead fishing. As a result, wild winter steelhead abundance in the Rogue Stratum could not be estimated.

Harvest

The RSP established a wild steelhead harvest rate limit for the Rogue Stratum in aggregate. The harvest rate will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-23. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Rogue Stratum (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Monitoring Area	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Rogue Stratum	<15%	2022	983	10.3%
		2023	714	N/A

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Rogue

Population: Upper Rogue Winter Steelhead

Abundance

Research and Monitoring Action V.B.3 in the RSP is the initiation of winter spawning ground surveys to estimate winter steelhead abundance in the Upper Rogue population. Abundance estimates are used to determine harvest rates for wild winter steelhead and may be used to develop new measurable criteria for adult winter steelhead at the first 12-year plan assessment.

Table I-24. Annual survey effort (number of sites and total length in miles) and estimated number of wild winter steelhead spawners in the Upper Rogue population.

Population	Year	Survey Effort		Wild Steelhead Spawners
		Survey Sites	Miles	
Upper Rogue	2022	26	37	N/A[1]
	2023	15[2]	23.1	3,724

[1] Due to staffing and weather constraints, wild steelhead spawner abundance for the Upper Rogue population could not be estimated.

[2] Additional sites were surveyed but due to high flow events and access issues some sites did not meet survey frequency criteria for estimating total redd abundance.

Harvest

The RSP established a wild steelhead harvest rate limit for the Upper Rogue population. The harvest rate will be assessed as a multi-year average based on available data at the 5-year plan review, and as a 5-year running average thereafter.

Table I-25. Harvest rate estimates for wild winter steelhead in the Upper Rogue population (N/A = harvest rate not available because wild steelhead abundance could not be estimated).

Population	Harvest Rate Limit	Year	Estimated Harvest	Wild Steelhead Harvest Rate
Upper Rogue	<15%	2022	395	N/A
		2023	418	10.1%

Hatchery Influence

The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. During the first 9 years of plan implementation and data collection, pHOS will be evaluated annually as a multi-year average based on available information to determine if any adaptive management is needed. Winter spawning ground surveys in the Upper Rogue may not provide an adequate number of live and dead fish observations to estimate pHOS on an annual basin, and so observations may be aggregated over multiple years to evaluate pHOS relative to the limit established in the plan. A trap on Little Butte Creek may help acquire an adequate number of observations.

Table I-26. Upper Rogue winter steelhead pHOS estimates. "N/A" indicates no estimate available due to insufficient sample size (<10 observations where adipose fin clip status could be determined).

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	pHOS Estimate
Upper Rogue	10%	2022	N/A
		2023	N/A

Section II. Rogue Summer Steelhead SMU

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Population: Rogue Summer Steelhead Multiple Population Aggregate

Abundance

The abundance of wild late-run summer steelhead returning to the Rogue Basin is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. Wild late-run summer steelhead abundance is estimated based on catch of adult summer steelhead during Huntley Park seining from July-October and a flow-based expansion. The estimate is an aggregate of the Middle Rogue/Applegate and Upper Rogue summer steelhead populations and does not include early-run summer steelhead. Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table II-1. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Huntley Park wild late-run summer steelhead metric.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Wild Late-Run Summer Steelhead	2021	9,506	9,243	≥ 11,000	7,351	< 3,250
	2022	5,299	8,482		7,403	
	2023	7,036	7,151		6,168	

Harvest

Retention of wild summer steelhead is prohibited in the Rogue Basin.

Hatchery Influence

The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan; pHOS will be evaluated at the population scale as data availability allows.

Section III. Rogue–South Coast Coho Salmon SMU

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Elk River Coho Salmon

Abundance

Wild coho salmon spawner abundance in the Elk River is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. Coho spawner abundance in the Elk River is estimated based on peak counts in standard spawning ground surveys and a habitat-based expansion. The estimate is best viewed as an index of abundance because survey frequency varies among sites and sampling does not occur in all areas where coho salmon spawn. Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table III-1. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Elk River wild coho salmon abundance index metric.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Elk River Wild Coho Abundance Index	2021	307	192	≥ 800	229	< 150
	2022	434	245		371	

Harvest

Retention of wild coho salmon is prohibited in the Rogue–South Coast SMU.

Hatchery Influence

The Elk River does not have a hatchery coho salmon program. The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan even if they do not have hatchery programs. The pHOS limit is intended to be evaluated as a 9-year running average to monitor the prevalence of straying from other basins with hatchery programs. Spawning ground surveys in the Elk River may not provide an adequate number of live and dead fish observations to estimate pHOS on an annual basin, and so observations may be aggregated over multiple years to evaluate pHOS relative to the limit established in the plan.

Table III-2. Elk River coho salmon pHOS estimates. "N/A" indicates no estimate available due to insufficient sample size (<10 observations where adipose fin clip status could be determined).

Population	pHOS Limit	Year	pHOS Estimate
Elk River	10%	2021	N/A
		2022	N/A

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Rogue

Population: Rogue Coho Salmon Multiple Population Aggregate

Abundance

The abundance of wild adult coho salmon returning to the Rogue Basin is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. Wild coho abundance is estimated based on the ratio of wild and hatchery coho salmon captured during Huntley Park seining from July-October and hatchery coho salmon returns to Cole Rivers Hatchery. The Huntley Park estimate represents an aggregate of Rogue Stratum coho salmon populations. Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table III-3. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for wild coho salmon abundance at Huntley Park.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Huntley Park Wild Coho Abundance	2021	8,992	5,503	≥ 10,000	5,409	< 1,870
	2022	7,865	6,121		8,429	

Harvest

Retention of wild coho salmon is prohibited in the Rogue–South Coast SMU.

Hatchery Influence

The RSP established a 10% limit for the proportion of hatchery fish on the spawning grounds (pHOS) in all populations covered by the plan; pHOS will be evaluated at the population scale as data availability allows.

Section IV. Rogue–South Coast Cutthroat Trout SMU

WILD FISH MONITORING SUMMARY

Stratum: Coastal

Population: Cutthroat Trout Multiple Population Aggregate

Abundance

The Coastal Stratum cutthroat trout (Age-1+) abundance index is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. The index is based on visual underwater snorkel pool counts in randomly selected sites. Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table IV-1. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Coastal Stratum cutthroat trout (Age-1+) abundance index metric.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Cutthroat Trout Abundance Index	2021	15,112	31,897	≥ 28,000	21,293	< 6,500
	2022	13,712	25,446		14,412	

Spatial Structure

Coastal Stratum cutthroat trout (Age-1+) site occupancy is one of the measurable criteria established in the RSP. Site occupancy is the percentage of randomly selected snorkel survey sites (same sites used for the abundance index described above) with observed presence of Age-1+ cutthroat trout. Progress toward desired status is evaluated based on a 5-year running average; a 2-year running average is used to determine when the metric has dropped to the conservation status threshold.

Table IV-2. Annual estimates and running averages compared to desired and conservation status thresholds for the Coastal Stratum cutthroat trout (Age-1+) site occupancy metric.

Metric	Year	Estimate	5-yr average	Desired Status	2-yr average	Conservation Status
Cutthroat Trout Site Occupancy	2021	95%	96%	≥ 90%	97%	< 75%
	2022	95%	96%		95%	