

10-31-2006

Ex. 279-US-409

Roger Smith

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Klamath Watersed District

William Tinniswood

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Klamath Watersed District

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.uidaho.edu/klamath>

Recommended Citation

Smith, Roger and Tinniswood, William, "Ex. 279-US-409" (2006). *In re Klamath River (Klamath Tribe)*. 90.
<https://digitalcommons.law.uidaho.edu/klamath/90>

This Expert Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Hedden-Nicely at Digital Commons @ UIdaho Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in In re Klamath River (Klamath Tribe) by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ UIdaho Law. For more information, please contact annablaine@uidaho.edu.

Fish Inventory

Sycan River

District staff surveyed Torrent springs, Sycan River on 23 October. Approximately 20 adult redband between 3 and 6 pounds were observed. Redband trout looked bright and in good condition. District staff does not know if these redband trout are spawners from this spring or just beginning a spawning migration. Additionally, eight suckers, assumed to be Klamath largescale, were observed.

Fourmile Lake

District staff set one gill net and one trap net in Fourmile Lake on the 19 of October. The nets were fished 24 hours. A total of 18 lake trout were captured in the trap net whereas 5 lake trout were captured in the gill net. Lake trout captured ranged from 11-27" (Figure 1). The largest lake trout captured was in good condition (Figure 2). Average condition factor for lake trout has improved since 2004 to 1.1. A total of 38 brook trout were captured. Brook trout were the most common fish captured. Unlike lake trout the gill net was more efficient at capturing brook trout. Brook trout ranged in size from 6-15" (Figure 3). Brook trout condition was excellent. Average condition factor was 1.4. A total of 31 kokanee were captured. Average length of female kokanee was 12" (312 mm). Female kokanee average lengths have increased steadily since the year 1999 when lake trout were first stocked. Average length of female kokanee in 1999 was 8". A total of three rainbow trout were captured. One rainbow trout captured was 2006 fingerling release and the other two rainbow trout were from the 2004 fingerling release and were 15" in length. As expected the 2005 fingerling release did not show up in the sample due to the fact grade out rainbow trout were stocked in 2005 due to rainbow trout shortage.

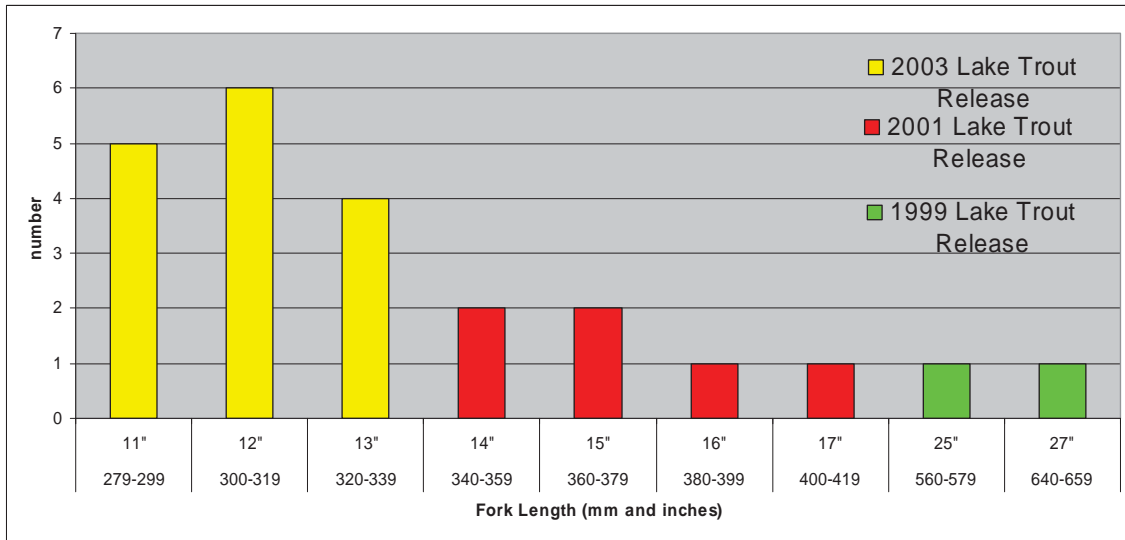


Figure 1. Length-frequency of lake trout captured on 20 October in Fourmile Lake by trap and gill net set for 24 hours.



Figure 2. A 27" lake trout captured in gill net on northwest corner of Fourmile Lake on 20 October 2006.

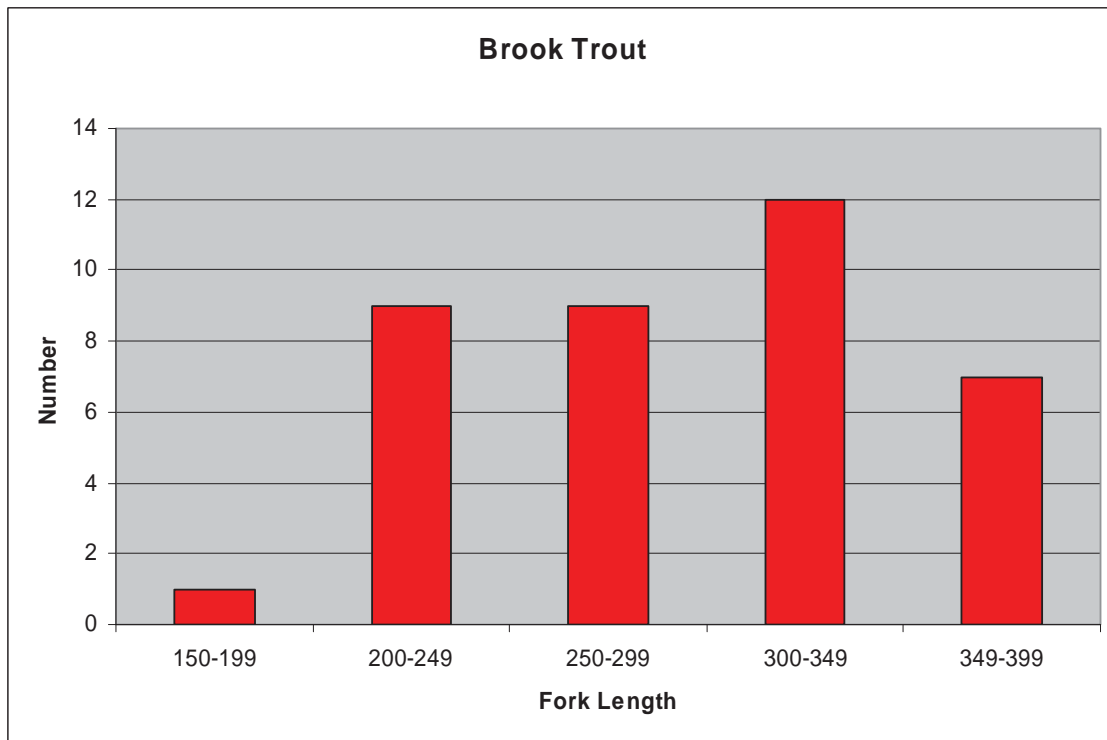


Figure 3. Length frequency of brook trout captured on 20 October in Fourmile Lake in a gill net and trap net set for 24 hours.

Miller Lake

District staff set one gill net and trap net in Miller Lake on the 19 of October. The nets were fished 24 hours. The trap net collapsed and only four brown trout were captured. The gill net captured 27 brown trout. Length frequency was typical of previous years. The brown trout fishery appears to still be strong. Of concern is lack of kokanee and rainbow trout in the catch.

Woodpecker Lake

District staff set one gill net Woodpecker Lake on the 19 of October. The net was fished 24 hours. A total of four brook trout were captured ranging from 235-278 mm. All brook trout were in good condition and pre-spawn.

Badger Lake

District staff set one gill net in Badger Lake on the 19 of October. The net was fished 24 hours. A total of 43 brook trout were captured. This is the highest CPUE of any gill net set in Badger Lake. Brook trout ranged in length from 6-16" (Figure 4). Most brook trout were mature but pre-spawn. Condition factor of brook trout was good and averaged 1.26. Three adult and one young

of the year brook trout were observed in the small creek entering Badger Lake. Two six inch males and one 12” female were observed. The brook trout were most likely attempting to spawn in the creek.

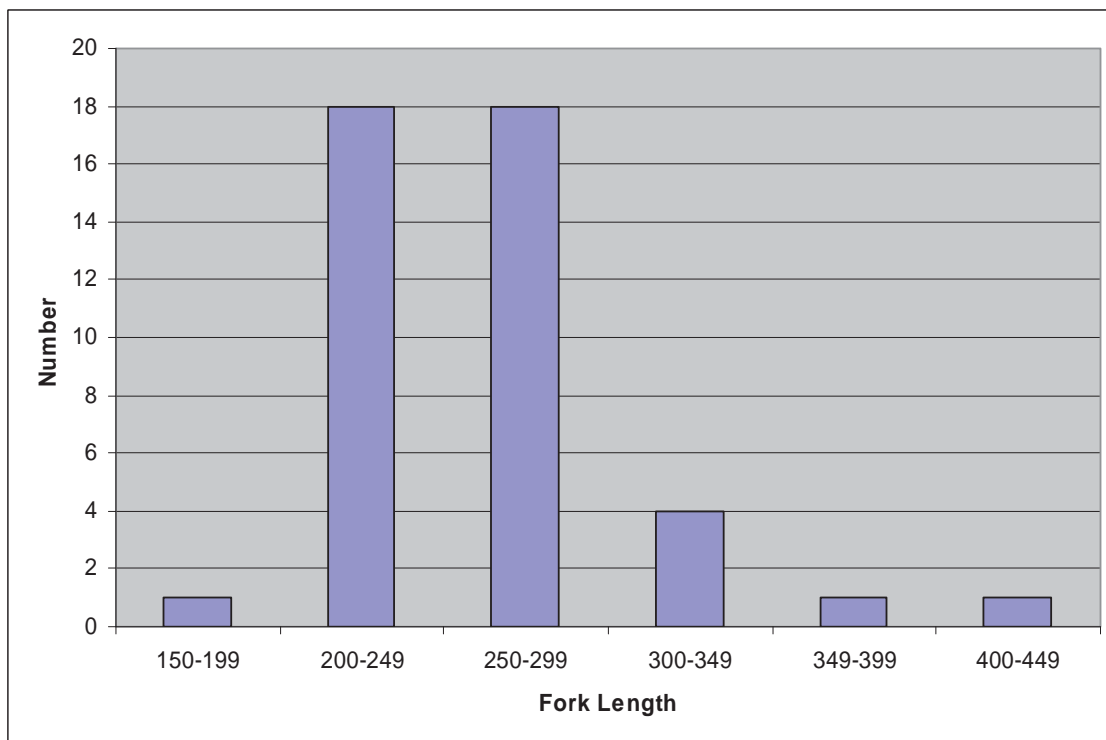


Figure 4. Length-frequency of brook trout captured in gill net in Badger Lake on 20 October 2006.

Fish Habitat

October Stream Flows

Stream flow remained low during the month with no significant precipitation (Table 1).

Table 1. Peak and mean flows (cfs) for various streams in the Klamath Basin in October 2006

Stream	Mean Flow	Peak Flow (cfs)
Sprague River (Beatty)	137	158
Sevenmile Creek (Fort Klamath)	29	32
Cherry Creek	10	13
Annie Creek	58	59

Agency Lake

BOR reported that the Agency Lake Ranch/Barnes Ranch properties will be officially returned to Upper Klamath Lake within the next 2 years. BOR determined it is not a prudent investment to expend funds to install screens as originally envisioned at Agency Ranch. Reclamation, the Service, and The Nature Conservancy are finalizing an MOU which lays out the terms of the property sale, acquisition, and return to the National Wildlife Refuge system. In addition, we will only divert at the lower screened diversion during the 2007 and 2008 storage season (Jan-April), and will continue to monitor entrainment with a screw trap at this site. I have been told it is likely the re-connection back to UKL will occur by the end of 2008.

Lost River

BOR are going to start pursuing design work to install fish screens at the Miller Hill Pumping Plant (inside the Lost River Diversion Channel) and plan to use the INRALOX screens at this site.

Upper Klamath Lake

An illegal fill occurred on Upper Klamath Lake in October. A total estimate of 530 cubic yards of soil and large boulders were placed in the high water mark and wetland area near Rocky Point Resort at the Scarbrough property (27455 Rocky Point) (Figure 5). The legal is 36S, R6E, S2, Tax lot 3000.



Figure 5. Fill violation in Upper Klamath Lake near Rocky Point on property T36S R6E, S2 tax lot 3000.

Angling

Klamath River

Angling on opening day on the Keno reach of the Klamath River was excellent. A total of 14 anglers were observed from the Gauging station downstream to the second powerlines. All anglers were observed catching fish.

Meetings and Public Outreach

District staff attended the Chewaucan River fish passage and irrigation celebration on 14 October.