AN ASSESSMENT OF FREEZE-BRAND AND PIT-TAG RECOVERY DATA FOR JUVENILE SALMONIDS AT McNARY DAM, 1988

by Clinton Scott McCutcheon and Albert E. Giorgi

Annual Report of Research

Financed by Department of Energy Bonneville Power Administration Division of Fish and Wildlife Project 87-130 Agreement DE-AI79-87BP34269

and

Coastal Zone and Estuarine Studies Division Northwest Fisheries Center National Marine Fisheries Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2725 Montlake Boulevard East Seattle, Washington 98112

February 1990

ABSTRACT

This study evaluated mark recovery data from PIT-tagged and freeze-branded river-run yearling and subyearling chinook salmon (<u>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</u>), sockeye salmon (<u>O. nerka</u>), and steelhead (<u>O. mykiss</u>) at McNary Dam in 1988. Double-marked (PIT-tagged and freeze-branded) juvenile salmonids were released within the McNary Dam collection system upstream from the PIT-tag detectors and brand sampling system. Results indicate that brands were recovered in smaller proportions than PIT tags and the variability of brand data was considerable. Most of the error associated with brands was attributable to human error inherent in brand detection and interpretation.

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|------|
| INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| METHODS AND MATERIALS | 2 |
| Bypass System Releases | 3 |
| Sample Tank Releases | 4 |
| RESULTS | 6 |
| Recovery Proportions | 6 |
| Timer Evaluation | 9 |
| Brand Interpretation | 11 |
| DISCUSSION | 16 |
| CONCLUSIONS | 18 |
| ACKNOWLEDGMENTS | 19 |
| LITERATURE CITED | 20 |
| APPENDIX A | |
| Summaries of PIT Tagging and Freeze Branding | 21 |
| APPENDIX B | |
| Summaries of Recovery Data | 26 |

.

INTRODUCTION

Investigations at McNary Dam (Columbia River Mile 292) suggested that PITtagged juvenile salmonids were recovered in significantly higher proportions than those which were freeze-branded (Prentice et al. 1987). In 1987, research was conducted to assess the extent and nature of the differential recovery proportions in yearling and subyearling chinook (<u>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</u>) and sockeye salmon (<u>O. nerka</u>), and steelhead (<u>O. mykiss</u>). Results from 1987 indicated that PIT tags were consistently recovered in significantly higher proportions than freeze brands regardless of species or stock (McCutcheon and Giorgi 1989). Furthermore, PIT tags provided more precise recovery data. The discrepancy in mark recovery proportions suggested a bias may be associated with the recovery of brand data. However, it was not possible to directly identify the source of the error. The inaccuracy could have been associated with the sampling mechanism or the brand reading and transcription process.

In 1988, the research objectives were to determine if juvenile salmonids are sampled from the separator at the rate established on the sample timer mechanism, and to what extent brand reading and transcription are a source of error.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Fish used in this study were acquired from the juvenile collection system of McNary Dam (Fig. 1). Details regarding dates, sizes, numbers, and marks used in each test are summarized in Appendix A. Fish were selected from the population in the sampling tank at the fish handling facility using the protocol employed by the freezebranding teams at that site.¹

¹ Fish were rejected prior to marking (tagging and freeze branding) if they were diseased, injured, descaled, previously marked, or precocious males, as well as steelhead less than 145 mm.

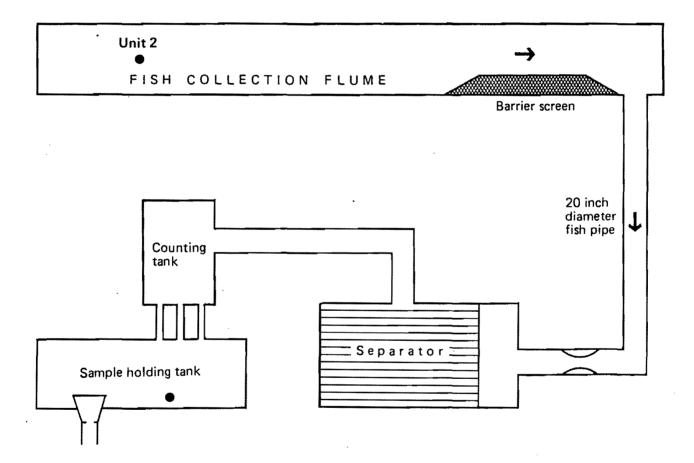


Figure 1.--Schematic view of fingerling collection system at McNary Dam (fish release locations are marked with a black circle).

Freeze branding was conducted using methods described by Mighell (1969). PITtagging was conducted using methods described by Prentice et al. (1987).

Two methods were used in 1988 to evaluate the McNary Dam collection system: 1) double-marked fish bearing a brand and a PIT tag were released into the collection flume (Fig. 1) and 2) fish bearing only brands were released directly into the sample tank. Marked individuals were recovered in the fish handling facility. PIT tags were detected by a monitor system fitted to the entrance flume in the facility. Brands were interpreted and recorded by the smolt monitoring staff on site.

Bypass System Releases

At McNary Dam, the daily fish sample is used for a variety of experimental and management purposes. The daily rate at which fish are sampled from the bypass population varies depending on the needs of users and the total number of fish in the system (the sample tank can be overloaded). Each day, the Corps of Engineers (COE), biologist estimated the sample rate to be used for the next day's sample. For flume releases, group sizes varied according to the expected sample rate and were adjusted so that a minimum of 60 fish would be recovered in the sampling facility.

Prior to release, marked fish were held for 3 days in 720-liter portable holding containers (Swan²) equipped with a flow-through water supply and an auxiliary air supply. Mortalities were removed and recorded daily. These were later deducted from the number originally marked. One hour prior to release a random sample of 30 to 110 fish was examined and graded for brand legibility using criteria described by the Smolt Monitoring Program (FPC 1987). To estimate the effective number of legible brands in each group, fish brands categorized as Class 3 (illegible) or Class 5 (not visible) were subtracted from each release group.

² George Swan, National Marine Fisheries Service, Building 900 Big Pasco Industrial Park, Pasco, WA 99301. Pers. commun. (manuscript in progress), January 1989.

All groups of fish were transported in the holding containers to the turbine intake deck of McNary Dam and released via a 7.6-cm diameter hose into the bypass flume at Turbine Unit 2. Releases were made within the hour after the sample timer was set. Sample rates at the fish holding facility were changed at noon each day.

PIT tags were first detected as fish exited the separator (Fig. 2). All fish exiting the separator were interrogated. An additional tag detector was fitted on the entrance port to the sampling building. All fish in the timed subsample moved through this detector. Brands in the timed subsample were read and recorded in the sampling building by Smolt Monitoring Program personnel. The estimated number of a particular brand in the bypass population (often referred to as the "expanded" estimate) was calculated as the ratio of the number of brands observed in the sample to the proportion of time the sample was extracted.

PIT-tag recovery data specified the date and time detected. Recovery data for brands were pooled over a 24-hour period (noon to noon). For comparative purposes, daily PIT-tag recovery data were adjusted to the same time frame. Only recovery data observed during the first sample day after release were analyzed. This ensured that all fish from a particular release were subjected to the same daily sample rates, since some fish require more than 24 hours to pass from the flume through the separator. Recovery proportions of tags and brands were compared using chi-square tests.

Sample Tank Releases

To assess the extent of brand reading error, some groups of fish were marked with a freeze brand only and released directly into the sample tank. A variety of marking tool shapes, sizes, and rotations were used. Release groups ranged in numbers from 57 to 102. All fish were marked by the same experienced fish marker.

Branded fish were held for 3 days in 120-liter holding containers prior to release. At release, fish were enumerated, examined for brand legibility, and released directly

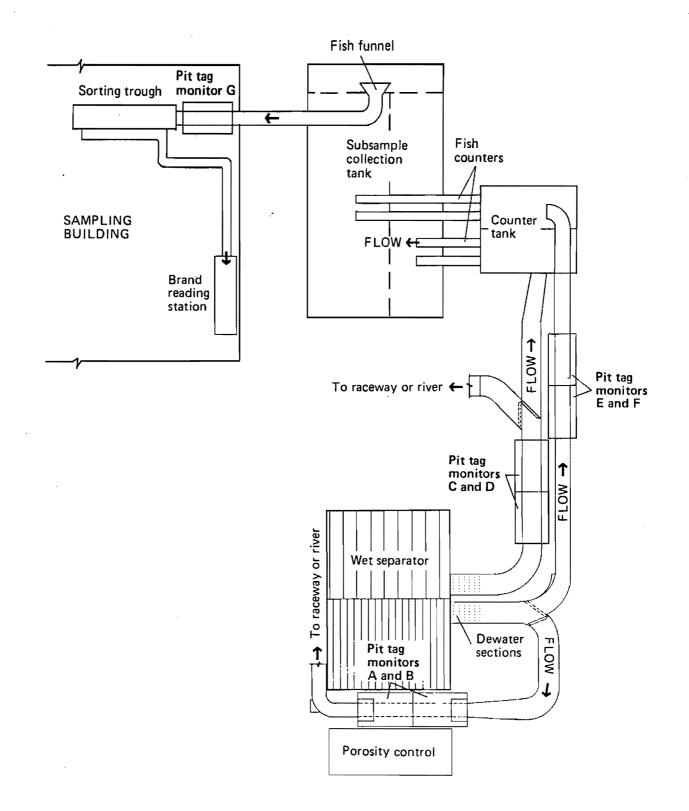


Figure 2.--Detailed overview of the McNary Dam fingerling sampling system.

into the sample tank.³ Releases were made after the daily sample was taken so the fish would be examined by the brand reading crew on the fourth day after marking.

RESULTS

Recovery Proportions

Four groups (total = 2,587) of double-marked yearling chinook salmon were released into the bypass system. From those, 2,500 (96.6%) tags were detected leaving the separator. Tag recovery proportions displayed little intergroup variability, ranging from 0.960 to 0.979 (Table 1, Fig. 3). Brand release numbers were adjusted for legibility (see Appendix Table B1). Using brand data adjusted for legibility, significantly fewer (P < 0.001) of the brands were estimated as recovered than observed for PIT tags. Only 83% of the brands were estimated as recovered. Furthermore, variability in recovery proportions among groups was pronounced, ranging from 0.53 to 1.05 (Table 1, Fig. 3).

It should be noted that during the 24-hour recovery period for the 10 May release, the timer setting was changed on four occasions. The PIT-tag recovery proportion was 0.98, the highest observed (Table 1), whereas brands were recovered in their lowest proportion (0.53) (Table 1).

Three groups (total = 3,273) of double-marked subyearling chinook salmon were released into the bypass system. A total of 3,056 (93.4%) tags were detected exiting the separator. Intergroup recovery proportions of PIT tags displayed little variability, ranging from 0.92 to 0.96 (Table 1, Fig. 3). Overall, slightly fewer brands than tags were recovered. Adjusted for legibility, 0.92 were estimated as recovered. However,

³ Fish from the first and second group of yearling chinook salmon were not examined for brand legibility prior to release.

Table 1.--Mark release and recovery data, 1988. Recovery data are the total over the entire mark-recovery period. Brand recoveries are expanded by the daily timer setting. All fish were both branded and tagged. Tag recoveries were those detected exiting the separator. Brand data are both adjusted and unadjusted for brand legibility at time of release. See Appendix B Table 1 for details regarding the estimate of the number of legible brands at release.

| | | | Total number | recovered | Reco | very propor | tions |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---------------------------|---|
| Species | Release date | Number released | PIT tag | Brand | PIT tags | Brands not adjusted | Brands adjusted for legibility |
| Chinook | | | | | | | |
| Yearlings | 29 Apr | 561 | 542 | 470 | 0.966 | 0.867 | 0.892 |
| | 10 May | 620 | 607 | 217* | 0.979 | 0.357 | 0.525 |
| | 24 May | 805 | 773 | 619 | 0.960 | 0.769 | 1.046 |
| | 29 May | 601 | 578 | 458 | 0.962 | 0.762 | 0.792 |
| Subyearlings | 10 Jul | 1,194 | 1,093 | 1,080 | 0.915 | 0.905 | 0.922 |
| | 16 Jul | 1,211 | 1,158 | 1,319 | 0.956 | 1.089 | 1.089 |
| | 21 Jul | 868 | 805 | 571 | 0.927 | 0.658 | 0.665 |
| Steelhead | 6 May | 612 | 585 | 404 | 0.956 | 0.660 | 0.825 |
| | 16 May | 644 | 606 | 364 | 0.941 | 0.565 | 0.721 |
| | 23 May | 853 | 830 | 779 | 0.973 | 0.913 | 0.930 |
| Sockeye | 1 Jun | 145 | 122 | 63 | 0.841 | 0.434 | 0.434 |

^aDuring this recovery period, the timer was adjusted four times in 24 hours. The sample rate indicated is a weighted average calculated by the Fish Passage Center (FPC).

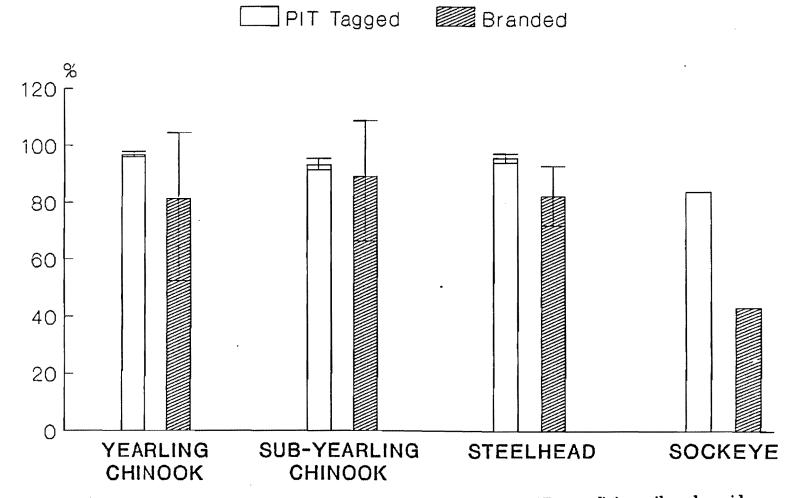


Figure 3.--Mark-recovery percentages (means) from double-marked (branded and PIT-tagged) juvenile salmonids released into the McNary Dam bypass flume and recovered at the fingerling sampling system, 1988. Brand data were adjusted for legibility. Vertical lines indicate the range for three release groups. ω

the variability in the recovery proportions among groups was considerable, ranging from 0.67 to 1.09 (Table 1, Fig.3).

A total of 2,109 steelhead were double-marked, subdivided into three groups and released into the bypass system. A total of 2,021 (95.6%) were detected exiting the separator. Intergroup recovery proportions of the tags exhibited little variability, ranging from 0.94 to 0.97 (Table 1, Fig. 3). Adjusted for legibility, only 83% of the brands were estimated to be recovered. Variability in intergroup recovery proportions was considerable, ranging from 0.72 to 0.93 (Table 1, Fig. 3).

Due to limited fish availability, only one group of marked sockeye salmon (n = 145) was released into the bypass system. Eighty-four percent of the tags were detected exiting the separator. Only 43.5% (n=63), of the brands were recovered (Table 1, Fig. 3).

Timer Evaluation

In this series of evaluations we tested the hypothesis that juvenile salmonids exiting the separator were sampled in the proportion specified on the timer. Using PIT tags detected leaving the separator and those detected in the sample, we employed the chi-square statistic and tested each group separately (Table 2) (see Appendix B2).

Inspection of the recovery data indicated that fish tended to be sampled at somewhat less than the nominal sample rate (Table 2). However, in no case was the proportion of fish extracted significantly different than the timer setting, but some probabilities did approach 0.05 (Table 2). Further evidence that the sample gate may tend to undersample was apparent when data were analyzed using Fisher's combined probability test (Fisher 1944). In that comparison, the proportion of fish from all tests that were diverted into the sample was significantly less than the overall prescribed timer setting (chi-square = 35.34, d.f. = 22, $0.025 \le P \le 0.05$). Thus, the observed discrepancies in tag and brand recovery proportions appears to be in part associated with the sampler mechanism.

Table 2.--Results of chi-square (df = 1) to test the hypothesis that the proportion of sampled yearling and subyearling chinook and sockeye salmon and steelhead was the same as the proportion of time the sample was extracted. The probability (P) associated with each chi-square test is reported.

| Release Species date | | | Proportion of time scheduled | Proportion of tags leaving separator detected in sample | Chi-square | P |
|-------------------------|----|------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------|-------|
| Chinook | | | | boon and different or a boon and different in the second second second second second second second second second | | |
| yearlings | 29 | Apr | 0.100 | 0.096 | 0.094 | 0.757 |
| | 10 | May ^a | 0.088 | 0.070 | 2.319 | 0.129 |
| | | May | 0.200 | 0.179 | 1.923 | 0.165 |
| | 27 | May | 0.150 | 0.121 | 3.586 | 0.059 |
| subyearlings | 10 | Jul | 0.050 | 0.050 | 0.002 | 0.860 |
| | 16 | Jul | 0.050 | 0.056 | 0.762 | 0.384 |
| | 21 | Jul | 0.070 | 0.054 | 3.096 | 0.079 |
| Steelhead | 6 | May | 0.100 | 0.076 | 3.495 | 0.061 |
| | 16 | May | 0.100 | 0.078 | 3,161 | 0.075 |
| | 23 | May | 0.150 | 0.164 | 1.186 | 0.276 |
| Sockeye | 1 | Jun | 0.080 | 0.066 | 0.345 | 0.555 |

^a On this date the timer setting was changed on four separate occasions. The proportion of time sampled is the weighted mean of those settings.

Brand Interpretation

Discrepancies between PIT-tag and brand-recovery proportions are to a great extent associated with error inherent in the brand reading process. Inspection of recovery data from branded fish, released directly into the sample tank, indicated high variability in brand interpretation (Tables 3-6).

Steelhead and sockeye salmon displayed the most variability (Tables 3 and 4). Generally, brands were recovered in low proportions. In several instances, no brands were observed. The recovery proportions for branded steelhead and sockeye salmon ranged from 0.0 to 1.0 (mean = 0.68) and 0.0 to 0.94 (mean = 0.48), respectively.

Brand recovery data from subyearling chinook salmon were consistently higher than for any other species (Table 5). Recovery proportions ranged from 0.84 to 1.24 for 11 marked groups. The mean proportion recovered was 1.01 for all groups combined.

Brand recovery data for yearling chinook salmon are not as clear. Prior to 23 April, freeze-branded groups were not graded for legibility. Recovery proportions (adjusted for legibility) for two groups released 23 April were 0.93 and 1.04 (Table 6). Recovery proportions on 18 and 19 April were very low and variable, recognizing that the release numbers were not adjusted for legibility.

There are two explanations for recovery proportions greater than 1.0: 1) brands graded as illegible at release were legible to brand readers in the sample room, or 2) a similar brand (usually a rotation or body position designation) was mistakenly reported.

| Table 3Recovery data from freeze-branded steelhead released directly into the sample |
|--|
| tank at McNary Dam, 1988. Fish were held for 3 days after branding, then |
| released. Brands were processed 24 hours following release. Only brands |
| which were legible were released into the sample tank. |

| Release date | Brand | Number released | Number recovered | Proportion recovered |
|-----------------|--------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 18 May | RA PP1 | 18 | 14 | 0.78 |
| - | LA PP1 | 3 | 0 | 0.00 |
| | RD PP1 | 15 | 0 | 0.00 |
| | LD PP1 | 21 | 16 | 0.76 |
| | RD PI2 | 17 | 17 | 1.00 |
| | LD PI2 | 9 | 9 | 1.00 |
| | Totals | 83 | 56 | 0.68 |

.

| Release date | Brand | Number released | Number recovered | Proportion recovered |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | | | |
| 14 May | RA 7T1 | 11 | 6 | 0.55 |
| | LA 7T1 | 10 | 9 | 0.90 |
| | RD 7T1 | 9 | 4 | 0.94 |
| | LD 7T2 | 9 8 | 4 5 8 7 | 0.63 |
| | RA F1 | 13 | 8 | 0.62 |
| | LA F1 | 16 | 7 | 0.44 |
| | LD F3 | 0 | _1ª | <u>0.00</u> |
| | | $\frac{0}{67}$ | $\frac{1^{a}}{41}$ | 0.61 |
| 12 June | LA F3 | 13 | 12 | 0.92 |
| | RA F3 | 15 | 0 | 0.00 |
| | RD PI1 | . 14 | 0 | 0.00 |
| | LD PI1 | 15 | 12 | 0.80 |
| | LA F1 | | _1* | <u>0.00</u> |
| | | $\frac{0}{67}$ | $\frac{1}{25}^*$ | $\overline{0.37}$ |

Table 4.--Recovery data from freeze-branded sockeye salmon released directly into the sample tank at McNary Dam, 1988. Fish were held for 3 days after branding, then released. Brands were processed 24 hours following release. Only brands which were legible were released into the sample tank.

^aFish bearing this brand were not released.

| Release date | Brand | Number released | Number legible | Number recovered | Proportion recovered of legible brands |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 11 Jul | LA F3 LD F3 RD F3 | 34 34 <u>34</u> 102 | 34 32 <u>33</u> 99 | 35 32 <u>34</u> 101 | 1.03 1.00 <u>1.03</u> 1.03 |
| 15 Jul | RA PP1 RD PP1 LA PP2 LD PP2 | 25 25 23 25 98 | 25 25 23 <u>16</u> 89 | 21 27 25 22 95 | 0.84 1.08 1.09 <u>1.24</u> 1.15 |
| 23 Jul | RA 7T1 RD 7T1 LA 7T3 LD 7T3 | 20 23 22 <u>24</u> 89 | 20 23 22 <u>24</u> 89 | 22 22 19 21 84 | 1.10 0.96 0.86 <u>0.88</u> 0.94 |

Table 5.--Recovery data from freeze branded sub-yearling chinook salmon released directly into the sample tank at McNary Dam,1988. Fish were held for 3 days after branding, then released. Bands were processed 24 hours following release.

| Release date | Brand | Number released | Number legible | Number recovered | Recovery proportions adjusted for brand legibility |
|-----------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| 18 Apr | LA PP1 | 13 | _* | 12 | 0.92ª |
| • | LD PP1 | 13 | _8 | | 0.08ª |
| | RA PP2 | 17 | _a | 1 4 ^b | 0.18ª |
| | RD PP2 | 17 | _a | 0 | 0.0ª |
| | LA PP2 | <u>0</u> 60 | 0 | $\frac{1}{18}$ | _a |
| 19 Apr | LA PP1 | 16 | _a | 8 | 0.500* |
| | LD PP1 | 18 | a | 4 | 0.220* |
| | LA PP2 | 14 | _* | 7 | 0.500* |
| | LD PP2 | <u>12</u> 60 | _ª | 4 23 | 0.330* |
| 23 Apr | RA PP1 | 28 | 28 | 26 | 0.929 |
| | LA PP2 | 29 | 25 | 26 | 1.040 |
| | LA PP1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | _c |
| | RA PP2 | $\frac{0}{57}$ | $\frac{0}{53}$ | $\frac{1}{54}$ | _c |

Table 6.--Recovery data from freeze-branded yearling chinook salmon released directly into the sample tank at McNary Dam, 1988. Fish were held for 3 days after branding, then released. Brands were processed 24 hours following release.

^a Brand legibility was not evaluated. ^b One fish was observed on second day after release. ^c Fish bearing this brand were not released.

DISCUSSION

Discrepancies in recovery proportions of PIT tags and freeze brands as observed at McNary Dam were first reported by Prentice et al. (1987). In that investigation, brands were recovered in lower proportions. However, it was not certain that brands had sufficient time to develop prior to the branded fish being intercepted at McNary Dam. In 1987 and 1988, we took measures to alleviate this uncertainty. In the present study, all branded fish were held at least 3 days prior to release into the bypass system or sample tank, and none were available for visual inspection by brand readers until the fourth day. Furthermore, all except one group of branded fish were graded for brand legibility just prior to release, and brand recovery proportions were adjusted according to the legibility factor for each group. Thus, insufficient brand development which was a concern in some earlier studies was determined not to be an important factor in our investigation.

Another uncertainty associated with earlier evaluations at McNary Dam was that the marking procedures (branding vs PIT tagging) may result in differential mortality or impaired behavior which could influence the recovery proportions at the dam. The use of double-marked fish in this year's investigation eliminated that concern, and brands were still recovered in lower proportions, particularly for steelhead and yearling chinook and sockeye salmon. Brands appear to show better on subyearling chinook salmon; brands and PIT tags were recovered in nearly the same proportion; however, the variability associated with the brands was considerable (Fig. 3).

Observations in 1987 (McCutcheon and Giorgi 1989) suggested that the sampling mechanism, which is activated by a timer switch, may not be extracting fish from the bypass population in the same proportion as prescribed by the timer. Results indicate that over a 24-hour period the sample gate may tend to slightly undersample the bypass population (Table 2).

The 1988 study suggested that the poor and variable recovery proportions of brands relative to PIT tags was primarily attributable to human error associated with brand identification and interpretation. In several instances brands that were legible and placed directly in the sample tank were not detected by the brand readers. This was particularly evident for steelhead and sockeye and yearling chinook salmon (Tables 3, 4, and 6). Another error occurs when brands are read but misclassified as another mark. The result is essentially two errors since data are removed from one group and added to the observations in another group. Examples of this are apparent in Tables 4 and 6, for sockeye and yearling chinook salmon.

The 2-year mark-recovery evaluation at McNary Dam indicated that brands produce more variable data than PIT tags, and, for steelhead and sockeye and yearling chinook salmon, brands were recovered in significantly lower proportions. Branded subyearling chinook salmon were generally recovered in the same proportion as PITtagged fish, but the brand data were variable. These findings have far reaching implications to mark-recapture investigations which use facilities at McNary Dam and perhaps other sites. There is considerable subjectivity associated with the brand interpretation process. One group of people grade brands prior to release whereas a different group inspects for marks at recapture sites. Apart from the human subjectivity, effects such as ambient lighting conditions, melanophore responses in anesthetized fish, and guanine deposition during smolt development compound the problem. The use of PIT tags circumvents these difficulties and provides more accurate and precise information. For this reason, NMFS has used the PIT tag for investigations which estimate juvenile survival, collection efficiency, and travel time. In some situations, freeze brands provide adequate information. Therefore, we recommend that the objectives of each study be examined carefully, and technical committees, and the choice of mark or tag be given ample assessment.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1) The low and variable recovery proportions of brands relative to PIT tags is primarily attributable to human subjectivity associated with brand grading, detection, and interpretation.
- 2) The timer-regulated sample gate tends to slightly undersample fish in the collection system; however, this does not appear to be an important factor affecting the low and variable recovery of branded fish.
- 3) Brands and PIT tags have utility in mark-recapture studies, and technical committees and funding agencies involved with such programs should determine which mark will provide the most satisfactory data for each particular study.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Support for this research came from the region's electrical ratepayers through the Bonneville Power Administration.

Special thanks are given to Brad Ebe and Sue Knapp of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' biological staff at McNary Dam for their efforts in coordinating the marking and releasing of the various test groups.

In addition, we offer our appreciation to the personnel of the Fish Passage Center, Washington Department of Fisheries, and the National Marine Fisheries Service fish sampling staff at McNary Dam for their assistance in this study.

LITERATURE CITED

Fish Passage Center (FPC).

1987. Smolt monitoring program annual report 1986. Bonneville Power Administration, Project 86-60. 133 p. + Appendixes. Fish Passage Center, 825 NE 20th Ave., Suite 336, Portland, OR 97232.

Fisher, R. A.

1944. Statistical methods for research workers. 9th edition. Oliver and Boyd Ltd., London. 350 p.

Giorgi, A. E., G. Swan, W. S. Zaugg, T. Coley, and T. Barila.

1988. Smolt development in yearling chinook salmon, <u>Oncorhynchus</u> <u>tshawytscha</u>, and susceptibility to bypass systems at hydroelectric dams. North Amer. J. Fish. Management 8(1):26-29.

Matthews, G. M., D. L. Park, J. R. Harmon, and C. S. McCutcheon.

1987. Evaluation of transportation of juvenile salmonids and related research on the Columbia and Snake Rivers, 1986. NOAA, NMFS, Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, Seattle, Washington. 34 p. + Appendixes (Report to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Contract DACW68-84-H-0034).

McCutcheon, C. S., and A. E. Giorgi.

1989. An assessment of freeze brand and PIT tag recovery data at McNary Dam, 1987. NOAA, NMFS, Northwest Fisheries Center, Seattle, Washington. 23 p. + Appendixes (Report to Bonneville Power Administration, Contract DE-AI79-87BP34269, Project 87-130).

Mighell, J. L.

1969. Rapid cold-branding of salmon and trout with liquid nitrogen. J. Fish. Res. Board Can. 26:2765-2769.

Prentice, E. F., D. L. Park, T. A. Flagg, and C. S. McCutcheon.
1985. A study to determine the biological feasibility of a new fish tagging system,
1985-1986. NOAA, NMFS, Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, Seattle,
Washington. 79 p. + Appendixes (Report to Bonneville Power Administration,
Contract DE-AI79-84BP11982, Project 83-319).

Prentice, E. F., T. A. Flagg, and C. S. McCutcheon.

1987. A study to determine the biological feasibility of a new fish tagging system, 1986-1987. (Report to Bonneville Power Administration, Contract DE-AI79-84BP11982, Project 83-319).

Raymond, H. L.

1974. Marking fish and invertebrates. I. State of the art of fish branding. Mar. Fish. Rev. 36(7):1-9.

APPENDIX A

Summaries of PIT Tagging and Freeze Branding

.

Appendix Table A1.--Summary of PIT tagging and freeze branding yearling chinook salmon at McNary Dam, 1988. Number of groups tagged : 4 PIT tag injection method: Auto-tagger Length taken on all fish Weight taken on 10% of groups 1, 2, and 3. Group 1: Tag Date : 26 April Release Date : 29 April : 588 Number Marked Number Released : 561 : min.= 5.2 / max.=108.1/ ave.=44.2g Weight : min.=109 / max.=249 / ave.=169mm Length : RAPP1 Associated brand Group 2: : 6 May Tag Date Release Date : 10 May : 631 Number Marked Number Released : 620 : min.= 9.8 / max.=90.7 / ave.=33.4g Weight : min.=105 / max.=225 / ave.=149mm Length Associated brand : LD7T3 (229) AND LD7T1 (326) Group 3: : 20 May Tag Date Release Date : 24 May Number Marked : 865 : 805 Number Released Weight : min.=14.4 / max.=81.9 / ave.=40.0g : min.= 99 / max.=228 / ave.=157mm Length Associated brand : LA F4 Group 4: : 25 May Tag Date Release Date : 29 May : 614 Number Marked Number Released : 601 Weight : weight not taken Length : min.=109 / max.=228 / ave.=157mm Associated brand : LA7T3

Appendix Table A2. -- Summary of PIT tagging and freeze branding sub-yearling chinook salmon at McNary Dam, 1988. Number of groups tagged : 3 PIT tag injection method: Auto-tagger Length taken on all fish Weight taken on 10% Group 1: : 7 July Tag Date : 10 July Release Date Number Marked : 1223 Number Released : 1194 : min.= 1.1 / max.=18.9 / ave.=10.2g Weight : min.= 78 / max.=157 / ave.=97 mm Length Associated brand : RA F1 Group 2: Tag Date : 13 July : 16 July Release Date : 1241 Number Marked Number Released : 1211 Weight : min.= 3.0 / max.=35.2 / ave.=11.8g : min.= 80 / max.=148 / ave.=100mm Length : LAPP2 Associated brand Group 3: : 18 July Tag Date : 21 July Release Date Number Marked : 897 Number Released : 868 : min.= 6.5 / max.=27.8 / ave.=11.8g Weight : min.= 79 / max.=147 / ave.=102mm Length Associated brand : RD7T3

Appendix Table A3. -- Summary of PIT tagging and freeze branding steelhead at McNary Dam, 1988. Number of groups tagged : 3 PIT tag injection method: Auto-tagger Length taken on all fish Weight taken on 10% Group 1: : 3 May Tag Date : 6 May Release Date Number Marked : 632 Number Released : 612 : min.=21.4 / max.=179.5/ ave.=77.6g Weight : min.=137 / max.=286 / ave.=205mm Length Associated brand : LA F3 Group 2: : 12 May Tag Date : 16 May Release Date Number Marked : 862 Number Released : 644 : min.=24.5 / max.=184.8/ ave.=72.9g Weight : min.=126 / max.=279 / ave.=211mm Length : LAPP2 Associated brand Release Remark : Water was turned off to the fish holding facility during barge loading causing severe stress. Group 3: : 19 May Tag Date : 23 May Release Date : 862 Number Marked Number Released : 853 : min.=12.1 / max.=132.6/ ave.=54.2g Weight Length : min.=139 / max.=276 / ave.=199mm Associated brand : RA F2

Appendix Table A4.--Summary of PIT tagging and freeze branding sockeye salmon at McNary Dam, 1988. Number of groups tagged : 1 PIT tag injection method: Auto-tagger Length taken on all fish Weight taken on 10% Group 1: Tag Date : 27 May Release Date : 6 June : 165 Number Marked Number Released : 146 : min.= 7.9 / max.=58.1 / ave.=16.1g Weight : min.=92 / max.=177 / ave.=118mm Length Associated brand : RA F2

APPENDIX B

Summaries of Recovery Data

.

Appendix Table B1.--Brand recovery data adjusted for legibility. Recovery data are the total over the entire mark-recovery period. The legibility factor was estimated from a random subsample of fish which was examined just prior to release, 3 days following marking.

| Species | Relo dat | ease te | Number released | Percent legible | Number released, adjusted for legibility | Estimated number collected | Recovery proportions adjusted for legibility |
|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Chinook | | | | | | | |
| Yearlings | 29 | Apr | 561 | 93.9 | 527 | 470 | 0.89 |
| - | | May | 620 | 66.6 | 413 | 217ª | 0.53 |
| | 24 | May | 805 | 73.5 | 592 | 619 | 1.05 |
| | 29 | May | 601 | 100.0 | 601 | 458 | 0.79 |
| Subyearlings | 10 | Jul | 1,194 | 98.1 | 1,171 | 1,080 | 0.92 |
| | 16 | Jul | 1,211 | 100.0 | 1,211 | 1,319 | 1.09 |
| | 21 | Jul | 868 | 99.0 | 859 | 571 | 0.67 |
| Steelhead | 6 | May | 612 | 80.0 | 490 | 404 | 0.83 |
| | | May | 644 | 78.4 | 505 · | 364 | 0.72 |
| | | May | 853 | 98.2 | 838 | 779 | 0.93 |
| Sockeye | 1 | Jun | 145 | 100.0 | 145 | 63 | 0.43 |

^a During this recovery period, the timer was adjusted four times in 24 hours. The sample rate indicated is a weighted average calculated by the FPC.

| Appendix Table B2Comparison between the proportion of time the sample gate was |
|--|
| open during the 24-hour period following release, and the |
| proportions of PIT-tagged fish observed and branded fish estimated in the sample. |

| | | Number | PIT tags | Bran | ıd | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------------|------------|--------------|----------|---------|-------|------------|
| | | detect | ed within | Estimated as | Observed | Propor | tion | Proportion |
| | | 24 hour of | of release | legible in | in | sampl | ed | of time |
| Species | Date | System | Sample | the system | sample | PIT tag | Brand | sampled |
| Chinook | | | | · | | | | |
| Yearlings | 29 Ap | or 521 | 50 | 489 | 45 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.10 |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 10 Ma | | 42 | 397 | 19 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.09 |
| | 24 Ma | | 135 | 552 | 119 | 0.18 | 0.22 | 0.20 |
| | 29 Ma | y 560 | 68 | 560 | 68 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.15 |
| Subyearlings | 10 Ju | 1,073 | 54 | 1,053 | 53 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| | 16 Ju | 1,132 | 63 | 1,132 | 65 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.05 |
| | 21 Ju | 11 779 | 42 | 771 | 40 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.07 |
| Steelhead | 6 Ma | y 529 | 40 | 423 | 35 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.10 |
| | 16 Ma | | 44 | 445 | 35 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.10 |
| | 23 Ma | y 800 | 131 | 780 | 116 | 0.16 | 0.15 | 0.15 |
| Sockeye | 1 Ju | in 122 | 8 | 122 | . 5 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.08 |

During this recovery period, the timer was adjusted four times in 24 hours. The sample rate indicated is a weighted average calculated by the FPC.