

## Memorandum

To: **Ms. Tracy McReynolds**

Date: **September 4, 2008**

From : **Department of Fish and Game-Chico Office**

Subject : **Big Chico Creek 2008 Adult Escapement Estimate**

Big Chico Creek was snorkel surveyed from Higgins Hole downstream to Ten Mile Gate (Upper Bidwell Park) on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Ten Mile Gate to Salmon Hole was surveyed on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. The survey was divided in three different sections (Figure 1). California State University, Chico Research Foundation employees Andrew Honeycutt, Andrew Anderson and Bryan Rilea participated in this years' survey.

**The 2008 spawning escapement for spring-run Chinook salmon is 0.** The total number of salmon observed in each section and water temperature data are provided in the table below.

Creek Section	# of Salmon	Temperature Range
(1) Higgins Hole To Henning's Hole	0	16 – 18.5° C
(2) Henning's Hole To Ten Mile Gate	0	17.5 - 21° C
(3) Ten Mile Gate To Salmon Hole	0	18 - 21° C

This year's adult escapement survey was scheduled to be conducted earlier than in years past due to the concern for potential pre-spawn mortalities resulting from low water flow and increasing water temperatures. However, the survey was postponed and rescheduled after air quality issues related to the Butte Fire Complex subsided.

In Sections (1), (2), and (3) no salmon were observed in the entire reach.

Any questions or concerns about the 2008 Big Chico Creek salmon escapement survey can be addressed to me at (530) 895-5110 or [cgarman@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:cgarman@dfg.ca.gov).

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Fisheries Biologist

cc: Mr. Joe Johnson  
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