

Memorandum

To: **Mr. Colin Purdy**

Date: **August 6, 2015**

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

Subject : **Big Chico Creek 2015 Adult Escapement Estimate**

Big Chico Creek was initially spot checked for salmon at historical viewing sites (Higgins Hole, Hennings Hole and Salmon Hole) on June 1, 2015. No salmon were observed at any spot check location. A full snorkel survey from Higgins Hole downstream to Salmon Hole was conducted on June 10, 2015. No salmon were observed in the entire holding and spawning reaches of the creek. Unprecedented drought conditions rendered most of the migration corridor in the Chico area too shallow for migration into holding habitat. Additional spot check surveys were conducted on July 1, 8, and 16, 2015 with no visible sign of any fish holding in Big Chico Creek.

The survey was divided into three different sections (Figure 1). Department of Fish and Wildlife employees Granton Henley, Alyssa Caldwell, Vaughn Harold, Brad Underwood and Carson Odegard participated in this years' survey.

The 2015 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	16-20°C
(2) Henning's Hole To Ten Mile Gate	0	17-20°C
(3) Ten Mile Gate To Salmon Hole*	0	N/A

Any questions or concerns about the 2015 Big Chico Creek salmon escapement survey can be addressed to me at (530) 895-5110 or cgarman@dfg.ca.gov.

Clint Garman
Fisheries Biologist

cc: Mrs. Katherine Hill

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