

Are naturally occurring spring-run Chinook present in the Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers?

- 1999 - Spring-run was listed under the ESA as threatened. This did not include San Joaquin tributaries as they were assumed extirpated by 1950 in the San Joaquin basin (Fry 1961).
- 2000-Present - Adult Chinook salmon have been observed over the summer (Wikert USFWS & Tsao CDFG – Personal Comm.)
- 2003, 2004 - Fishery Foundation report finds Adult Chinook June and July 2003, June and September 2004 in the Stanislaus River (Below Normal and Dry years respectively)
- 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012 - Adult Chinook salmon are passing upstream of video weirs (on the Stanislaus and Tuolumne) at a time period that would historically indicate a spring-run timing (2012 results do not indicate adipose present or not at this time).
- 2000 – 2011 Rotary Screw Trap (RST) data corroborates with the adult timing, by indicating that there are a small number of fry migrating out of the Stanislaus and Tuolumne at a period that would coincide with spring-run juvenile emigration (USFWS).

Adult Information

Chinook migrating upstream on the Tuolumne and Stanislaus Rivers (viewed by VAKI RiverWatcher weir)

Tuolumne (2010, 2012)	Stanislaus (2007, 2009, 2010, 2012)
12 Confirmed adipose intact (*55 total passed)	51 confirmed adipose intact (*68 total passed)

* In 2011 the Stanislaus weir was pulled in mid-March due to flood control releases. The Tuolumne weir was not operating

* 2012 adipose clipped information not available at this time (this includes 38 total fish for the Tuolumne)

Juvenile Information

Tuolumne RST cumulative catch 2000-2011 – matching USFWS length at date criteria for spring-run fry at Mossdale

March	245 Chinook fry -6% of TC
April	761 Chinook fry – 26% of TC
May	736 Chinook fry – 25% of TC
June	7 Chinook fry – 2% of TC

Stanislaus (Caswell) RST cumulative catch 2000-2011 - matching USFWS length at date criteria for spring-run fry at Mossdale

March	636 Chinook fry - 9% of TC
April	911 Chinook fry - 12% of TC
May	363 Chinook fry – 6% of TC
June	4 Chinook fry - < 1% of TC

Official Water Year Hydrologic Classification Indices from CDWR

	Year Type
2000	Above Normal
2001	Dry
2002	Dry
2003	Below Normal
2004	Dry
2005	Wet
2006	Wet
2007	Critical Dry
2008	Critical Dry
2009	Dry
2010	Above Normal
2011	Wet
2012	Dry

Reference

Fry, D.H., Jr. 1961. King salmon spawning stocks of the California Central Valley, 1940-1959. California Fish and Game 47: 55-71.