

PTAGIS NEWS



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PTOC Operations Status

The main interrogation site, PIT Tag interrogation systems are continuing to operate smoothly. Acquisition of data from Lower Granite dam is still troublesome. Both the adult interrogation site and the juvenile interrogation site have experienced US West related phone service outages. These interruptions in service have delayed the data uploads and cost time and resources to troubleshoot.

The Snake river projects initiated the "PIT Tag sub-sample over-ride" protocol beginning on Friday, June 14 at 07:00. This protocol provides a mechanism to divert PIT-tagged fish during a sub-sample collection. During normal operations PIT-tagged fish are collected in the sub-sample. Because the diversion systems are between 90% and 98% effective there will still be a few PIT-tagged fish in the sub-samples of the Snake River projects.

On May 15, 1996 the A-side (Chinook) diversion gate air cylinder failed at Lower Monumental dam (LMJ). PSMFC staff coordinated with the fish facility biologist and repaired the gate hardware. Fish collected from the A-side between 9:00 PM on 5/15/96 to 10:40 AM on May 15, 1996 were bypassed to the river rather than transported. There were nearly 3,500 individual PIT-tagged fish detected at LMJ on this day. *(Even though these fish were bypassed to the river, their last interrogation record will refer to the A-Raceway monitor).*

Debris problems plagued the McNary Juvenile fish bypass facility (MCJ) throughout Spring. Because McNary was not configured for transportation of fish, this did not effect operation of PIT Tag diversion gates. However, the number of "Unknown" final dispositions at MCJ reflects the fact that fish were re-routed through the facility and were not interrogated at an "Exit" monitor.

The database operations were interrupted briefly for the installation of new disk drives on June 13. Aside from this brief period, the PTAGIS database has operated continuously since season water-up activities. A software upgrade is scheduled for Friday, July 19, 1996. The system will be down the entire day.

For specific details of the condition of the PIT interrogation system at Corps of Engineers facilities see the Event Log on the PTAGIS3 application or look at the logs over the internet at www.psmfc.org/pittag/dbms/eventlog.html.



The "X" Codes

Interrogation sites that end in the letter X are experimental facilities. Several PIT interrogation sites are at an operational / experimental state. Operational in that these sites provide PIT interrogation data to PTAGIS. Experimental in that these sites are non-production and work is being performed to improve technical and biological aspects of the facility. Also, since these sites are experimental they are not necessarily operated continuously through out the season. Contact the National Marine Fisheries Service for details on these experiments.

GRX

The separation by code (SBC) system at Lower Granite is experimental. This (sub) facility is known as GRX. All PIT-tagged fish that are routed through the diversion at Lower Granite Juvenile (GRJ) pass through at least two of the three monitors at GRX. The GRX facility layout is shown in Appendix D of the 1996 PIT Tag Specification Document.

BVX

BVX is a prototype flat-plate (Passover) PIT-tag interrogation system located in the down stream migrant channel at Bonneville Dam's first powerhouse. Here it's antenna is installed on top of the juvenile fish sampling box. The system is designed to detect PIT-tagged fish as they pass over a large, flat antenna surface (about 7' wide x 4' across), rather than having to pass through an orifice. Some advantages of this approach are that fish are not constrained as they pass, and trash can wash over the antenna without endangering the fish or clogging the passage way. Possible future applications include monitoring adult fish in fishways or ladders, and detection of tagged fish in small streams or experimental raceways.

TWX

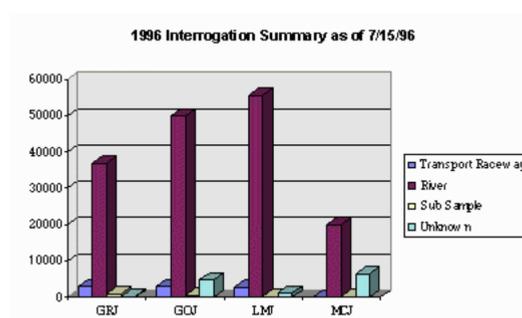
The PIT Tag detector trawl is called TWX. This is a set of underwater detectors that is towed at the exit of a trawl. The trawl is towed by two boats that face up river. Fish enter the trawl on the upstream end and exit at the termination of the trawl. There are two interrogation units with two coils, each at the termination of the trawl.

The trawl is run near Jones Beach around river kilometer 75. The trawl area ranged about 20 kilometers. This work targeted the NMFS transportation study groups in the Columbia river estuary.



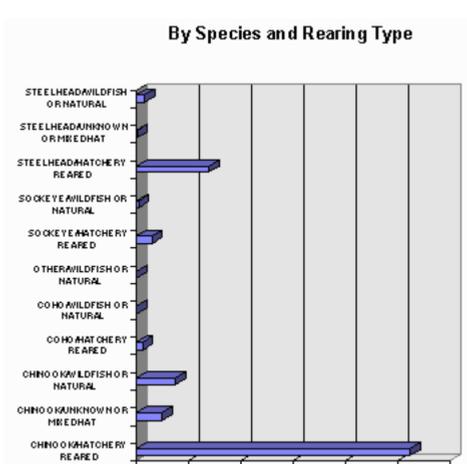
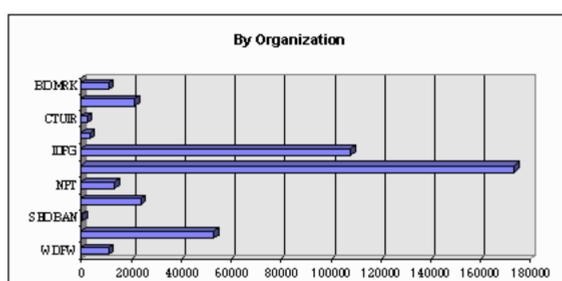
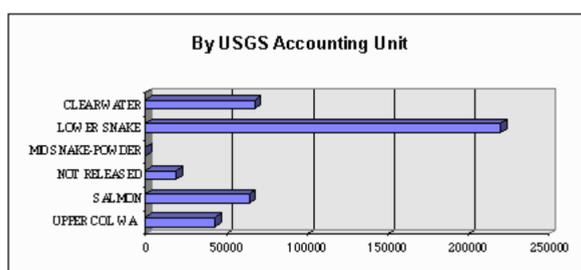
Year To Date Interrogation Summary

The graph below shows the final disposition of PIT-tagged fish at the four main-stream juvenile fish facilities during the 1996 outmigration as of July 15, 1996.



Year To Date Tagging Summary

The three graphs below are a summary of the 421,399 tag data records collected for the 1996 migration year as of July 15, 1996.



1997/98 PIT Tag Forecast Calendar

Forecast Form Distributed to Tag Coordinators:	July 29
Forecasts Returned to PTOC:	Aug. 5 - Sept. 3
Confirmation of Forecasts Mailed:	Sept. 6
Forecast Corrections Deadline:	Sept. 23
1997-98 Forecast Frozen:	Oct. 1

PIT Tagging projects need to budget \$2.90 per PIT Tag. A voucher system will be used to transfer the PIT Tag funds to PTAGIS at the time that tags forecasted by the tagging projects are ordered by PTAGIS.

Remember!

When you PITVAL a TAGGING file be sure to check for duplicate tag codes! To do this using PITVAL2.EXE:

1. Choose Validate | Find Duplicates (or press <Alt-D>)
2. Choose Validate | Show Duplicates (or press <Alt-S>)

After you have identified the duplicates, delete the one you do not want to include in the Tagging File.

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