Coastal Cutthroat Trout Symposium April 9-10, 2024, Newport Oregon Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn

Gleaning Coastal Cutthroat Data from 27+ Years of Salmon & Steelhead Monitoring

Matt Weeber¹ *In-person*

¹ODFW – Corvallis Research Lab, 28655 Hwy 34, Corvallis, OR 97333, 541-757-5120, matt.weeber@oregonstate.edu

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's, Oregon Adult Salmonid Inventory and Sampling Project (OASIS), has been conducting fall salmon and winter steelhead spawning ground surveys on the Oregon Coast since the mid-90's, and in Lower Columbia River basins since 2002. Spatially balanced, randomly selected survey sites are walked or boated once every 7 to 14 days from September through May to count live fish, carcasses and redds. Supplemental to this effort, information about coastal cutthroat has also been recorded. This data is considered "ancillary" to the main goals of the monitoring but has potential value when describing cutthroat temporal and spatial patterns. The following presentation explores the three sources of data that OASIS has available: salmon season data, steelhead season data, and carcass recovery data. Little could be gleaned from the salmon season and carcass recovery data sets. This is mainly due to how data is recorded and how few records exist. However, data on cutthroat trout collected during steelhead season proved to be more relevant, offering a coast-wide glimpse into coastal cutthroat spawn timing and distribution.