# PALLANT CREEK STEELHEAD 

## 1989 - 90

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## INTRODUCTION

Steelhead angling on the Queen Charlotte Islands is a popular recreation for resident and nonresident anglers from December to May. This report describes a steelhead tagging project carried out on Pallant Creek during the winter of 1989-90. Similar studies were conducted during the winters of 1981-82, 1983-84 and each successive winter thereafter (deLeeuw 1984; deleeuw 1985a, 1985b, 1985c; deleeuw 1989a, 1989b, 1989c. This ongoing project is aimed at documenting long term steelhead population changes and establishing Pallant Creek as a steelhead index stream for the Queen Charlotte Islands. Continued commitment by the British Columbia Steelhead Society (Queen Charlotte Island Chapter) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, (Pallant Creek Hatchery staff) to this project, combined with the small size and accessibility of the stream, make Pallant Creek a favourable location for this type of long term study.

As in previous years, the objectives of the 1989-90 Pallant Creek steelhead tagging study were to:

1. describe steelhead run timing and movement;
2. describe life history characteristics; and
3. estimate population size.

A description of the study area can be found in previous reports on this project (de Leeuw 1985a, 1985b, 1985c).

## THE FISHERY

Except for the current study season steelhead fishing effort as reported annually in the Steelhead Harvest Analysis has increased steadily since the early seventies (Table 1). The apparent rise in angler use during the last decade was likely the result of participation of the hatchery staff and B.C. Steelhead Society members involved in the steelhead tagging program. A drop in angler use expressed as days fished is evident in the 1989-90 period, although the number of anglers has remained about the same for the last few years. The total catch and catch per day was also considerably less than it has been at any time since the 1970's. Success or catch/day for other Charlotte streams did not drop to the same degree in 1989-80. Reduced effort on Pallant may be explained by the comparatively high catch/day and attractiveness of other Queen Charlottes streams during the 1989-90 season.

## METHODS

The river was partitioned into seven zones (Fig. 1). Adult steelhead were angled on conventional gear and tagged with white, numbered, anchor (7.62 cm spaghetti) tags. Fork length, sex, date of capture, tag number and colour as well as zone of capture were recorded. After the removal of a few scales between the dorsal fin and lateral line, fish were released at the capture site. In-stream migration distances of recaptured fish were estimated by calculating the distance between the mid points of original and recapture zones.

Table 1. Pallant Creek steelhead harvest analysis ${ }^{1}$ 1970-71 to 1989-90.

| Season | Days <br> Fished | No. of Anglers | Kept | Released | Kept/ Day | Catch/ | Charlottes Catch/Day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 70-71 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 20 | 1.00 | 3.50 | 0.36 |
| 71-72 | 10 | 3 | 21 | 25 | 2.00 | 4.60 | 0.52 |
| 72-73 | 89 | 12 | 45 | 86 | 0.50 | 1.47 | 0.31 |
| 73-74 | 26 | 3 | 26 | 34 | 1.00 | 2.22 | 0.33 |
| 74-75 | 10 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 0.27 |
| 75-76 | 73 | 30 | 23 | 40 | 0.32 | 0.86 | 0.47 |
| 76-77 | 107 | 46 | 47 | 20 | 0.45 | 0.65 | 0.37 |
| 77-78 | 74 | 30 | 48 | 92 | 0.64 | 1.86 | 0.48 |
| 78-79 | 177 | 42 | 35 | 26 | 0.21 | 0.38 | 0.41 |
| 79-80 | 236 | 50 | 36 | 86 | 0.16 | 0.53 | 0.48 |
| 80-81 | 382 | 53 | 59 | 709 | 0.16 | 1.96 | 0.79 |
| 81-82 | 227 | 66 | 41 | 190 | 0.22 | 1.05 | 0.93 |
| 82-83 | 293 | 50 | 17 | 511 | 0.06 | 1.80 | 1.23 |
| 83-84 | 235 | 37 | 39 | 330 | 0.17 | 1.57 | 0.57 |
| 84-85 | 359 | 58 | 66 | 620 | 0.18 | 1.92 | 1.32 |
| 85-86 | 137 | 41 | 14 | 185 | 0.10 | 1.44 | 1.65 |
| 86-87 | 219 | 70 | 17 | 350 | 0.10 | 1.65 | 1.51 |
| 87-88 | 507 | 64 | 36 | 1026 | 0.07 | 2.07 | 1.28 |
| 88-89 | 348 | 68 | 12 | 535 | 0.05 | 1.58 | 1.41 |
| 89-90 | 129 | 61 | 15 | 95 | 0.11 | 0.85 | 1.14 |
| Mean | 182 | 40 | 31 | 249 | 0.41 | 1.63 | 0.79 |

[^0]

Fig. 1 Pallant Creek Angling Zones During The 1985 - 86 Steelhead Tagging Study

Scales were viewed using a dissecting microscope. The two best examples from the sample were cleaned and mounted on gummed cards. Impressions of the scales were made on acetate cards by applying heat ( 85 to $95^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) and pressure (100 ft lbs.) for 60 seconds. A Leitz Prado projector was then used to examine each scale for freshwater and ocean age (Narver and Withler 1974).

Population size was determined using the Schnabel, Schumacher and Schnabel-Chapman adjusted multiple census techniques (Ricker, 1975). The formulae were:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Schnabel: } \\
& \text { Schumacher: } \quad N=\frac{\sum(\mathrm{Ct} \mathrm{Mt)}}{\mathrm{R}} \\
&
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\text { Schnabel, Chapman revised: } N=\frac{\sum(C t \text { Mt) }}{R+1}
$$

where: | $t=5$-day time period |  |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | $C t=$ total catch during time $t$ |
|  | $M t=$ total fish tagged and released during time $t$ |
|  | $M=$ sum of Mt |
|  | $R t=$ total recapture during time $t$ |
|  | $R=$ sum of $R t$ |

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the 1989-90 study period, 82 steelhead were tagged in Pallant Creek. Of these, 20 were recaptured once, and six were recaptured twice and one fish was recaptured three times for a total of 27 recaptures (25\%). An additional four fish from previous tagging studies were also
recaptured. Two of these were returns from 87 tags disbursed in 1988-89, while the other two were a result of 160 tags from 1987-88. Doug Turvey of Pallant Creek Hatchery (pers. comm.) noted that the lower number of tagged fish was due to an increase in "non-tagging" fishermen, low water flows and a busy season at the hatchery decreasing the hatchery staff's fishing time.

## SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL DISTRIBUTION

The largest portion of the steelhead catch in the present study occurred in Zones 2 (41.5\%) and 3 (47.6\%) (Table 2). In combination, these zones have contributed over $50 \%$ of the catch during all study years. The fact that these two zones are closest to the hatchery (Fig. 1) where access is readily available is likely the most significant factor controlling catch distribution.

As in other years steelhead were tagged from mid December to early May, with the majority of the catch occurring after mid January (Table 3). Although the larger component of the Pallant Creek steelhead run enters in the latter part of the season, peaks in run timing have been variable from year to year.

Time between the original capture and recapture varied from zero (i.e. fish recaptured on day of capture) to 115 days (Table 4). Nine (33\%) of the 27 recaptures occurred within 20 days of first capture but only one fish was captured on the same day. The remaining 14 fish averaged 55 days between captures with a range of 21 to 163 days. The overall average time between captures of all recaptured fish was 30.1 days.

Table 2. Pallant Creek steelhead tagged during the 1984-85 to 89-90 winter seasons by zone.

| Steelhead tagged |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zone | $\begin{gathered} 1984-85 \\ \underline{n} \quad(\%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1985-86 \\ \underline{n} \quad(\%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1986-87 \\ \underline{n} \quad(\%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1987-88 \\ \underline{n} \quad(\%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1988-89 \\ \underline{n} \quad(\%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1989-90 \\ \underline{n} \quad(\%) \end{gathered}$ | Total $\underline{n} \quad(\%)$ |
| 1 | 0 (0) | 1 (1) | 3 (2) | $9(6)$ | 0 (0) | - | 13 (2) |
| 2 | 27 (22) | 16 (11) | 40 (24) | 46(34) | 44 (51) | 34 (42) | 207 (27) |
| 3 | 13 (11) | 29 (20) | 50 (29) | 49 (25) | 22 (25) | 39 (48) | 202 (26) |
| 4 | 34 (28) | 13 (9) | 32 (19) | 18 (11) | 1 (1) | 3 (4) | 101 (13) |
| 5 | 2 (1) | 14 (10) | 26 (15) | 19(12) | 11 (13) | 2 (2) | 74 (10) |
| 6 | 17(14) | 60 (42) | 18 (11) | 18(11) | 9 (10) | 2 (2) | 124(16) |
| 7 | 11 (9) | 10 (7) | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | 0 (0) | - | 23 (3) |
| Not recorded | 19(15) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2(2) | 21(3) |
| Total | 123(100) | 143(100) | 170(100) | $160(100)$ | 87 (100) | 82(100) | $765(100)$ |

Table 3. Number of steelhead tagged during the 1984-85 to 1989-90 winter seasons grouped in 10 day periods.

| Date <br> (mm/dd) | 1984-85 | 1985-86 | 1986-87 | 1987-88 | 1988-89 | 1989-90 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10/01-10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 21-30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11/01-10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-20 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 21-30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 9 |
| 12/01-10 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 17 |
| 11-20 | 3 | 10 | 16 | 15 | 6 | 2 | 52 |
| 21-30 | 1 | 13 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 35 |
| 01/01-10 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 43 |
| 11-20 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 13 | 2 | 9 | 37 |
| 21-30 | 7 | 4 | 24 | 16 | 4 | 9 | 64 |
| 02/01-10 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 36 |
| 11-20 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 21 | 4 | 8 | 51 |
| 21-28 | 17 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 57 |
| 03/01-10 | 4 | 18 | 9 | 16 | 11 | 1 | 59 |
| 11-20 | 20 | 23 | 12 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 70 |
| 21-30 | 18 | 26 | 6 | 7 | 15 | 4 | 76 |
| 04/01-10 | 41 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 16 | 84 |
| 11-20 | 0 | 7 | 22 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 46 |
| 21-30 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 14 |
| 05/01-10 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 9 |
| 11-20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 123 | 143 | 170 | 160 | 87 | 82 | 765 |

Table 4. Movement and residency of recaptured steelhead in Pallant Creek. 1989-
90.

|  | Original | First | Second | Third |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capture | Recapture | Recapture | Recapture | Total TotalDays |  |  |
| No. | Sex Zone Date | Zone Date | Zone Date | Zone Date | KM | (1st Recatpture) |


| W | 2851 | F | 2 | Dec. 18 | 2 | Jan. 9 |  |  |  |  | 22 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| W | 2877 | F | 2 | Jan. 16 | 2 | Jan. 19 |  |  |  |  | 3 |
| W | 2857 | M | 3 | Dec. 31 | 2 | Jan. 27 | 2 | Feb |  |  | (15) 27 |
| W | 2862 | F | 2 | Jan. 27 | 2 | Jan. 30 | 3 | Feb |  |  | (18) 3 |
| W | 2864 | F | 2 | Jan. 30 | 2 | Feb. 2 |  |  |  |  | 3 |
| W | 2891 | M | 3 | Jan. 24 | 3 | Feb. 3 | 3 | Mar | 1 |  | (26) 10 |
| W | 2878 | F | 2 | Jan. 16 | 2 | Feb. 3 |  |  |  |  | 18 |
| W | 2881 | F | 2 | Jan. 18 | 2 | Feb. 3 | 3 | Apr | 12 | Apr. 15 | (14) (57) 16 |
| W | 2885 | M | 3 | Jan. 29 | 3 | Feb. 9 | 3 | Mar | 25 |  | (44)11 |
| W | 2899 | M | 3 | Feb. 12 | 3 | Feb. 12 |  |  |  |  | same day |
| W | 2858 | F | 2 | Jan. 14 | 3 | Feb. 16 |  |  |  |  | 33 |
| W | 2866 | M | 2 | Feb. 4 | 2 | Feb. 18 |  |  |  |  | 14 |
| W | 2876 | M | 3 | Jan. 17 | 3 | Feb. 23 |  |  |  |  | 37 |
| W | 2855 | F | 3 | Dec. 31 | 5 | Mar. 2 |  |  |  |  | 61 |
| W | 2852 | F | 2 | Dec. 20 | 2 | Mar. 10 |  |  |  |  | 80 |
| W | 2861 | F | 5 | Jan. 20 | 4 | Mar. 30 |  |  |  |  | 69 |
| W | 2892 | F | 3 | Jan. 24 | 3 | Apr. 1 |  |  |  |  | 67 |
| W | 2939 | M | ? | Feb. 23 | 4 | Apr. 1 |  |  |  |  | 37 |
| W | 2853 | F | 2 | Dec. 22 | 2 | Apr. 13 | 2 | Apr |  |  | (3) 112 |
| W | 2929 | M | 2 | Apr. 21 | 2 | May 5 |  |  |  |  | 14 |

Equal numbers of males and females were captured but females dominated (58\%) the recaptures. Of the 14 longtime residents (i.e. longer than 20 days between recaptures), nine were females. The two longest residents were females at 115 days and 87 days.

Steelhead which were tagged early in the season had a considerably better chance of being recaptured than late arriving fish (Table 5). Recaptures of early tagged (December and January) fish were distributed throughout the season while all late fish were recaptured within the months of original capture (April) or not recaptured at all. In addition to the recaptures tagged during the $1989-90$ study, two fish were recaptured from the 1987-88 study and two from the 1988-89
study (Table 6). Of particular interest were two female steelhead tagged during the $1987-88$ season. One fish was originally tagged on January 15, 1988, recaptured February 13, 1988 and again on March 16, 1988 as a kelt. The same fish was recaptured two years later on January 20, 1990 and had grown 16.5 cm . The other fish was originally tagged on December 5, 1988, recaptured in February 27,1989 and recaptured again on two consecutive days a year later (January 14 and 15, 1990). This fish had grown 10.8 cm .

Table 5. Pallant Creek steelhead original capture and recapture dates grouped by months within the 1989-90 winter season.

| Original | Capture |  |  | Recaptu |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | Total | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec. } \\ & \text { n (\%) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } \\ & \text { n }(\%) \text { ) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Feb. } \\ & \text { n }(\%) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar. } \\ & \text { n }(\%) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Apr } \\ & \text { n (\%) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & \text { n(o) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Total $\underline{n}(\%)$ |
| Dec. | 7 | 0 | 2 (29) | 1(14) | 2 (29) | 2 (29) | 0 | 7 (100) |
| Jan. | 18 | 0 | 3 (17) | 7 (39) | 3 (17) | 3 (17) | 0 | 16(89) |
| Feb. | 21 | 0 | 0 | 2 (10) | 0 | 1(5) | 0 | 3 (14) |
| Mar. | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Apr. | 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1(4) | 1 (4) |
| May | 5 | 0 | 5 (6) | 10 (12) | 5 (6) | 6 (7) | 1(1) | 27 (33) |

Table 6. Pallant Creek steelhead originally tagged in 1987-88 and 198889 and recaptured in 1989-90.

| Tag \# | Sex | Tagged | Recaptured |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Zone | Date |  | Length | $(\mathrm{cm})$ | Zone | Date | Length (cm) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BL 1285 | F | 4 | Jan | $15 / 88$ | 77.5 | 5 | Jan $20 / 90$ | 94.0 |  |
| BL 1290 | F | 4 | Jan $29 / 88$ | 75.6 | 3 | Apr | $4 / 90$ | 86.4 |  |
| BL 1239 | M | 2 | Dec | $5 / 88$ | 71.1 | 2 | Jan $14 / 90$ | 74.9 |  |
| Y 1559 | M | 3 | Mar | $29 / 89$ | 63.5 | 3 | Jan $28 / 90$ | 66.0 |  |

The scale readings were inconclusive as to the number of times these fish had spawned; either some females spawn every other year or the scale readers are missing the ocean annulus because
of scale regeneration during spawning.

Although the recaptures from 1987-88 were not taken in the original zone of tagging during this study, there was a close overlap. The fish recaptured from $1988-89$ study were caught in the same zone as the original tagging the previous year.

AGE AND SIZE

Only 27 sets of readable scales were collected from the 82 tagged fish. The most prevalent age class in this small sample was three years of fresh water followed by three years of ocean growth (3.3) which made up $69.2 \%$ of the readable sample (Table 7). A small male (55.9 cm) caught December 22,1989 was a resident rainbow trout. This fish was six years old and had spawned once in its fifth year (4S1).

Freshwater age 3 fish made up $88.5 \%$ of the sample. The remaining $11.5 \%$ migrated to the ocean after four years of stream residency (Table 8). Three years of fresh water growth prior to ocean migration is typical of Queen Charlotte Island steelhead (Chudyk 1982: de Leeuw and Whately 1983; de Leeuw 1986).

The dominant ocean age was . 3 ( $82.6 \%$ ) followed by . 2 (17.4\%) (Table 9). Of the 27 fish sampled, 3 (11.5\%) had spawned previously and of these one was in its third spawning migration (Table 7). The percentage of repeat spawners in Pallant Creek has varied

Table 7. Number and percent male and female steelhead of different total age groups Pallant Creek, 1989-90 (N = 26).

Total

| Age Group | Males | Females | $\sigma^{\circ}+\boldsymbol{\%}$ | $\%$ of Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3.2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7.7 |
| 3.3 | 4 | 14 | 18 | 69.2 |
| 4.2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7.7 |
| 4.3 | 1 |  | 1 | 3.8 |
| $3.1 S 1$ | 2 | 1 | 2 | 7.7 |
| 3.1 SS1 | - | 1 | 3.8 |  |

Table 8. Number and percent male and female Pallant Creek steelhead of different freshwater ages. 1989-90 ( $\mathrm{N}=26$ ).

Freshwater

| Age | Males | Females | $\sigma^{\circ}+\boldsymbol{\%}$ | \% of Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | 6 | 17 | 23 | 88.5 |
| 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 11.5 |
| Total | 8 | 18 | 26 | 100.0 |

Table 9. Number and percent male and female Pallant Creek steelhead of different ocean ages. 1989-90 ( $\mathrm{N}=23$ ).

| Ocean <br> Age | Males | Females | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}+\boldsymbol{+}$ | O of Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| .2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 17.4 |
| .3 | 5 | 14 | 19 | 82.6 |
| Total | 7 | 16 | 23 | 100.0 |

considerably from year to year. The composition of multiple spawners in previous studies has ranged from 10\% (1983-84) to 27\% (1985-86). Variability in the percentage of multiple spawners during any given year is dependent on previous years populations and post spawning survival. An accurate estimation of repeat spawning frequency requires full analysis of population
age structure/life history. The number of repeat spawners this year would then be looked at relative to last year's spawning population and the percentage calculated.

Like the earlier Pallant Creek studies, steelhead size was linked to ocean age. After two years of ocean growth, Pallant Creek steelhead averaged 67.1 cm , while with an additional year fish were more than 10 cm longer (Table 10). Two year ocean males were marginally longer (67.8 cm) than females of the same age ( 66.5 cm ) and males were again larger at the end of three years ( $M=81.5 \mathrm{~cm}, \mathrm{~F}=78.3 \mathrm{~cm}$ ). The average fork length of steelhead tagged and measured during this study was 74.5 cm and ranged from 54.6 cm to 94.6 cm .

Table 10. Fork lengths (cm) of male and female Pallant Creek steelhead of different ocean ages, 1989-90.

| Ocean Age | Males |  |  |  | Females |  | Total |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N | $\overline{\mathrm{x}}$ | Range |  | N | $\overline{\mathrm{x}}$ | Range | N | $\overline{\mathrm{x}}$ | Range |
| . 2 | 3 | 67.8 | 64.8 - | 73.7 | 3 | 66.5 | 61.0-76.2 | 6 | 67.1 | 61.0-76.2 |
| . 3 | 5 | 81.5 | 77.5 - | 85.0 | 15 | 78.3 | $71.1-87.0$ | 20 | 79.8 | 71.1-87.0 |
| . $2+.3$ | 8 | 74.6 | 64.8 - | 85.0 | 18 | 72.3 | 61.0-87.0 | 26 | 73.4 | 61.0-87.0 |

## POPULATION ESTIMATE

The three multiple capture estimates calculated populations of 170,164 and 219 adult steelhead in Pallant Creek during 1989-90 (Table 11). These estimates are only valid if the following conditions are met:

1. marked fish suffer the same mortality as the unmarked;
2. marked fish are as vulnerable to capture as the unmarked ones;
3. marked fish do not lose their mark;
4. marked fish mix randomly with the unmarked ones such that the distribution of fishing effort (in subsequent sampling) is proportional to the number of fish present in different parts of the body of water;
5. all marks are recognized and reported on recovery;
6. there is only a negligible amount of recruitment to the catchable population during the time the recoveries are being made (Ricker 1975).

Since there were fresh fish entering and kelts leaving the study area, validity of the population estimates is questionable. For example, of the 36 fish tagged during March, April and May, only one was recaptured, indicating that these fish had a short riverine residence time and were not as vulnerable to capture. The tagged population or, more importantly, catch per unit effort (CPUE) is a much better parameter on which to base assumptions about stock size from year to year.

Table 11. Pallant Creek steelhead population estimates during the 1989-90 winter season.

|  |  | 95\% Confidence |  | Limits |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Method | Estimate | Poisson distribution | Normal Distribution |  |
| Schnabel | 170 | $117-258$ | $123-277$ |  |
| Chapman | 164 | $114-247$ | $120-259$ |  |
| Schumacher | $\frac{219}{184}$ | $156-373$ |  |  |
| Mean |  |  |  |  |

1. Eighty-five steelhead were captured by study participants in Pallant Creek from December 18, 1989 to May 9, 1990. Of these, 82 were tagged and an additional four were recaptures from other years' tagging.
2. The majority of the fish were taken in April, January and February in the two zones below the hatchery. Seventy-five percent of all recaptures occurred in the zone of original capture while both upstream and downstream migrations were noted amongst the remainder. Nine of the 27 recaptures were taken within 20 days of their original tagging date. The total days between original and repeat capture ranged from zero to 115. The average number of days between original and repeat capture was 38.9 . Only one fish was captured twice on the same day.
3. There was no significant difference in the percentages of males (50.6\%) and females (49.4\%).
4. Scale samples were interpreted from only 30 fish of which three (10.3\%) were multiple spawners. Only 29 scales were used to calculate the age classes as one fish was a resident fish (4S1). The dominant age class was 3.3 ( $69.2 \%$ ) followed by 3.2 (7.7\%), 4.2 (7.7\%), $3.1 \mathrm{~S} 1(7.7 \%), 4.3$ (3.8\%), and 3.1SS1 (3.8\%).
5. The overall average fork length of Pallant Creek steelhead during the 1989-90 study was 74.5 cm and ranged from 54.6 to 94.6 cm . Where both fork length and ocean age were determined, males with two or three years of marine growth averaged 67.8 cm and 81.5
cm respectively while females of similar ages averaged 66.6 cm and 78.3 cm respectively.
6. Estimates of the 1989-90 Pallant Creek steelhead population were 170 (Scbnabel), 164 (Chapman) and 219 (Schumacher).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDICES


PALLANT CREEK STEELHEAD TAGGING DATA

YEAR: 1989/90

| NUMBER DATE |  | TAG NUMBER | COLOR | SEX | LENGTH <br> (INCHES) | LENGTH WEIGHT (M.M.) (APPROX) | LOCATION | COMMENTS | ANGLER |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 51 | MAR30/90 | 02921 | WHITE | F | 33.00 | 838 | 4 | KELT, EX.SHAPE | DT |
| 52 | APR01/90 | 02915 | WHITE | M | 27.00 | 686 | 2 | COLORED, STRONG | SL |
| 53 | APR01/90 | 02916 | WHITE | M | 24.50 | 622 | 2 | COLORED, SOFT | SL |
| 54 | APR01/90 | 02917 | WHITE | M | 30.00 | 762 | 3 | BRIGHT | SL |
| 55 | APR01/90 | 02918 | WHITE | M | 26.50 | 673 | 3 | BRIGHT | SL |
| 56 | APR01/90 | 02919 | WHITE | M | 32.00 | 813 | 3 | BRIGHT | SL |
| 57 | APR01/90 | 02940 | WHITE | M | 25.50 | 648 | 3 | BRIGHT | SL |
| 58 | APR01/90 | 02941 | WHITE | M | 28.00 | 711 | 3 | BRIGHT | SL |
| 59 | APR02 / 90 | 02942 | WHITE | F | 29.50 | 749 | 3 | SILVER, BRIGHT | SL |
| 60 | APR0 $4 / 90$ | 02943 | WHITE | M | 26.00 | 660 | 3 | BRIGHT, SCARS LEFT SIDE | SL |
| 61 | APR04/90 | 02944 | WHITE | M | 25.50 | 648 | 3 | BRIGHT, SCARS LEFT SIDE | SL |
| 62 | APR04/90 | 02945 | WHITE | M | 25.50 | 648 | 3 | BRIGHT, SCARS BOTH SIDES | SL |
| 63 | APR05 / 90 | 02938 | WHITE | F | 28.00 | 711 | 2 | KELT | DT |
| 64 | APR06/90 | 02946 | WHITE | M | 26.50 | 673 | 3 | COLORED | SL |
| 65 | APR06/90 | 02947 | WHITE | F | 35.75 | 908 | 3 | STRONG, RED | SL |
| 66 | APR08/90 | 02874 | WHITE | F | 29.00 | 737 | 2 | KELT | MW |
| 67 | APR08/90 | 02873 | WHITE | F | 25.00 | 635 | 4 | CHROMER, HOOK IN MOUTH | MW |
| 68 | APR12/90 | 02948 | WHITE | F | 27.50 | 699 | 2 | SLIGHT COLOR | SL |
| 69 | APR12/90 | 02949 | WHITE | M | 26.50 | 673 | 3 | BRIGHT, SCARS LEFT SIDE | SL |
| 70 | APR12/90 | 02872 | WHITE | M | 28.00 | 711 | 4 | DARK | MW |
| 71 | APR15/90 | 02950 | WHITE | M | 31.50 | 800 | 2 | COLORED, STRONG, SCARS | SL |
| 72 | APR17/90 | 02951 | WHITE | M | 31.50 | 800 | 3 | SOME COLOR | SL |
| 73 | APR21/90 | 02929 | WHITE | M | 31.50 | 800 | 2 | DARK | DT |
| 74 | APR22/90 | 02952 | WHITE | M | 27.00 | 686 | 2 | DARK | SL |
| 75 | APR22/90 | 02953 | WHITE | F | 32.50 | 826 | 2 | KELT, GOOD SHAPE | SL |
| 76 | APR23/90 | 02954 | WHITE | F | 32.00 | 813 | 3 | SOME COLOR | SL |
| 77 | APR27/90 | 02955 | WHITE | M | 27.00 | 686 | 2 | SOME COLOR,STRONG | SL |
| 78 | MAY01/90 | 02956 | WHITE | M | 27.50 | 699 | 3 | STRONG, BRIGHT | SL |
| 79 | MAY05/90 | 02957 | WHITE | F | 32.50 | 826 | 2 | COLORED | SL |
| 80 | MAY05/90 | 02958 | WHITE | M | 25.00 | 635 | 2 | COLORED | SL |
| 81 | MAY05/90 | 02959 | WHITE | F | 35.00 | 889 | 2 | FAIRLY BRIGHT | SL |
| 82 | MAY09/90 | 02960 | WHITE | F | 21.50 | 546 | 2 | SEMI-BRIGHT | SL |
|  |  |  |  |  | MEAN : | 29.34 |  |  |  |

PALLANT CREEK STEELHEAD TAGGING DATA
Steelhead recaptures from Pallant Creek, 1989-90 winter season.
YEAR:1989/90******RECAPTURES******

| NUMBER | RECAPTURE | TAG | COLOR | SEX | LENGTH | LENGTH | WEIGHT | LOCATION | DATE | LOCATION | COMMENTS | ANGLER | ANGLER |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | DATE | NUMBER |  |  | (INCHES) | (M.M.) | (APPROX) | RECAPTURE | TAGGED | TAGGED |  | RECAP. | TAG |
| 1 | JANO9/90 | 02851 | WHITE | F | 29.00 | 737 |  | 2 | DEC18/89 | 2 | BRIGHT, FRESH | BW | DT |
| OY 2 | JAN14/90 | 01239 | BLUE | M | 29.50 | 749 |  | 2 | DEC05/88 | 2 | SILVER BRIGHT | DT | MD |
| OY * 3 | JAN15/90 | 01239 | BLUE | M | 29.50 | 749 |  | 2 | DEC05/88 | 2 | SILVER BRIGHT | DT | MD |
| 4 | JAN19/90 | 02877 | WHITE | F | 32.00 | 813 |  | 2 | JAN16/90 | 2 | BRIGHT | DT | MM |
| OY 5 | JAN20/90 | 01285 | BLUE | F | 37.00 | 940 |  | 5 | JAN15/88 | 4 | FRESH, PINKISH | DT | MD |
| 6 | JAN27/90 | 02857 | WHITE | M | 33.25 | 845 |  | 2 | DEC31/89 | 3 | COLORED, STRONG | DT | DT |
| OY 7 | JAN28/90 | 01559 | YELLOW | M | 26.00 | 660 |  | 3 | MAR29/89 | 3 | COLORED, RED STRIPE | SL | MD |
| 8 | JAN30/90 | 02862 | WHITE | F | 30.25 | 768 |  | 2 | JAN27/90 | 2 | KELT, UNSPAWNED 3 DAYS AGO | DT | DT |
| 9 | FEB02/90 | 02864 | WHITE | F | 33.00 | 838 |  | 2 | JAN30/90 | 2 | SOFT, STRONG | DT | DT |
| 10 | FEB03/90 | 02891 | WHITE | M | 25.50 | 648 |  | 3 | JAN24/90 | 3 | BRIGHT | SL | MM |
| 11 | FEB03/90 | 02878 | WHITE | F | 30.00 | 762 |  | 2 | JAN16/90 | 2 | COLORED, SOFT | DT | MM |
| 12 | FEB03/90 | 02881 | WHITE | F | 29.00 | 737 |  | 2 | JAN18/90 | 2 | BRIGHT | DT | SL |
| 13 | FEB09/90 | 02885 | WHITE | M | 31.00 | 787 |  | 3 | JAN29/90 | 3 | SOME COLOR,STRONG | SL | SL |
| *14 | FEB11/90 | 02857 | WHITE | M | 33.25 | 845 |  | 2 | DEC31/89 | 3 | DARK,STILL LOTS OF ENERGY | MM | DT |
| 15 | FEB12/90 | 02899 | WHITE | M | 31.00 | 787 |  | 3 | FEB12/90 | 3 | CAUGHT 10 MIN. AFTER TAGGING | SL | SL |
| OY *16 | FEB14/90 | 01559 | YELLOW | M | 26.00 | 660 |  | 3 | MAR29/89 | 3 | SOFT, COLORED | SL | MD |
| 17 | FEB16/90 | 02858 | WHITE | F | 30.50 | 775 |  | 3 | JAN14/90 | 2 | KELT, DARK, GOOD FIGHT | MM | DT |
| *18 | FEB17/90 | 02862 | WHITE | F | 30.25 | 768 |  | 3 | JAN27/90 | 2 | KELT, DARK, GOOD FIGHT | MM | DT |
| 19 | FEB18/90 | 02866 | WHITE | M | 36.25 | 921 |  | 2 | FEB04/90 | 2 | COLORED | SC | DT |
| 20 | FEB23/90 | 02876 | WHITE | M | 33.75 | 857 |  | 3 | JAN17/90 | 3 | COLORED | SL | MM |
| *21 | MAR01/90 | 02891 | WHITE | M | 25.50 | 648 |  | 3 | JAN24/90 | 3 | COLORED | MM | MM |
| 22 | MAR02/90 | 02855 | WHITE | F | 31.50 | 800 |  | 5 | DEC31/89 | 3 | SOME COLOR | SL | DT |
| 23 | MAR10/90 | 02852 | WHITE | F | 32.00 | 813 |  | 2 | DEC20/89 | 2 | KELT, GOOD SHAPE | DT | DT |
| *24 | MAR25/90 | 02885 | WHITE | M | 31.00 | 787 |  | 3 | JAN29/90 | 3 | COLORED, STRONG | SL | SL |
| 25 | MAR30/90 | 02861 | WHITE | F | 31.00 | 787 |  | 4 | JAN20/90 | 5 | KELT, EX-SHAPE | DT | DT |
| *26 | APR01/90 | 02881 | WHITE | F | 29.00 | 737 |  | 3 | JAN18/90 | 2 | COLORED | SL | SL |
| 27 | APR01/90 | 02982 | WHITE | F | 28.00 | 711 |  | 3 | JAN24/90 | 3 | KELT, GOOD SHAPE | SL | MM |
| 28 | APR01/90 | 02939 | WHITE | M | 30.00 | 762 |  | 4 | FEB23/90 | ? | COLORED, STRONG | DT | MW |
| OY 29 | APR04/90 | 01290 | BLUE | F | 34.00 | 864 |  | 3 | JAN29/88 | 2 | COLORED, WOUND ON HEAD | SL | MD |
| 30 | APR13/90 | 02853 | WHITE | F | 30.00 | 762 |  | 2 | DEC22/89 | 2 | KELT, GOOD SHAPE | SL | DT |
| **31 | APR15/90 | 02881 | WHITE | F | 29.00 | 737 |  | 2 | JAN18/90 | 2 | KELT, BELLY WOUND | SL | SL |
| *32 | APR16/90 | 02853 | WHITE | F | 30.00 | 762 |  | 2 | DEC22/89 | 2 | KELT, EX. SHAPE | DT | DT |
| 33 | MAY05/90 | 02929 | WHITE | M | 34.50 | 876 |  | 2 | APR21/90 | 2 | DARK,WOUND OVER TAIL | SL | DT |

COMMENTS: * SECOND TIME RECAPTURED
** THIRD TIME RECAPTURED
OY RECAPTURE FROM ANOTHER TAG YEAR


[^0]:    1 Steelhead Harvest Analysis B.C. Fisheries Branch annual reports.

