

Use of Video Technology to Investigate Hatchery and Wild Fish Interactions and Hatchery Fish Behavior

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We placed an underwater video camera near a hatchery release tube to determine diel movement of volitionally released spring Chinook smolts from Warm Springs NFH and to record interactions between volitionally released hatchery fish and resident salmonids in the Warm Springs River. Based on video recorded using the camera, hatchery staff and tribal biologists of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, OR decided to place underwater cover and refuge for hatchery fish during the fall volitional release. We will highlight interactions recorded between resident salmonids, birds, and mammals captured on video sessions, present newly recorded video with underwater refuge in place, and discuss the benefits and limitations to using an underwater video camera in current hatchery evaluation studies.