

A Small Scale Chinook Salmon Supplementation Project in Johnson Creek, Idaho
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The Johnson Creek Artificial Propagation and Enhancement (JCAPE) project is a small-scale supplementation initiative integrated with a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation program that is designed to increase survival of a weak but recoverable spawning aggregate of summer Chinook salmon. The goal of this project is to prevent the extirpation of the ESA-listed Johnson Creek summer Chinook. The JCAPE project attempts to rear up to 110,000 Chinook salmon smolts with direct releases into Johnson Creek. Only Natural Origin adults are utilized as broodstock and are allocated using a sliding scale and run arrival timing curves for Johnson Creek. Natural Origin fish not selected as broodstock and all Supplementation Origin fish are released above the Johnson Creek weir for natural spawning.

The JCAPE project utilizes temporary and permanent hatchery facilities to achieve the production of supplementation fish. Temporary facilities include a picket weir and in-stream trap and a circular tank for adult holding. Permanent facilities include incubation and juvenile rearing facilities at the McCall Fish Hatchery and satellite facilities of the McCall Fish Hatchery that includes adult holding and spawning.

The project first began collecting broodstock in 1998. Broodstock collection has occurred every year since except 1999 due to low adult run predictions and permitting issues. The JCAPE project smolt releases have ranged from 57,000 to 120,000 and average around 90,000 smolts annually. Supplementation adult returns have ranged from 100 to over 700. The supplementation smolts produced for the JCAPE project are 100% tagged with Coded Wire Tags (CWT), at least 50% receive a Visual Implant Elastomer (VIE) mark, and a portion are also tagged with Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags. To minimize selective fishery impacts, we don't adipose clip any of our JCAPE supplementation fish.