Update on Dutch Bill Creek fish populations





University of California Sea Grant Extension Program

UC Cooperative Extension and CA Sea Grant





Program Goal:

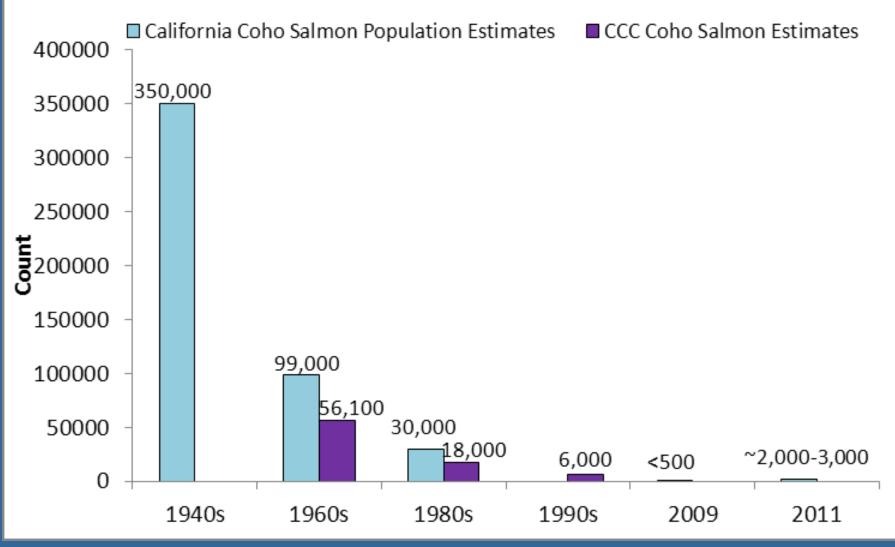
UC CE

Conduct monitoring and research to support salmon and steelhead recovery in the Russian River watershed

- Captive Broodstock
 Program
- CA Coastal Monitoring
 Program

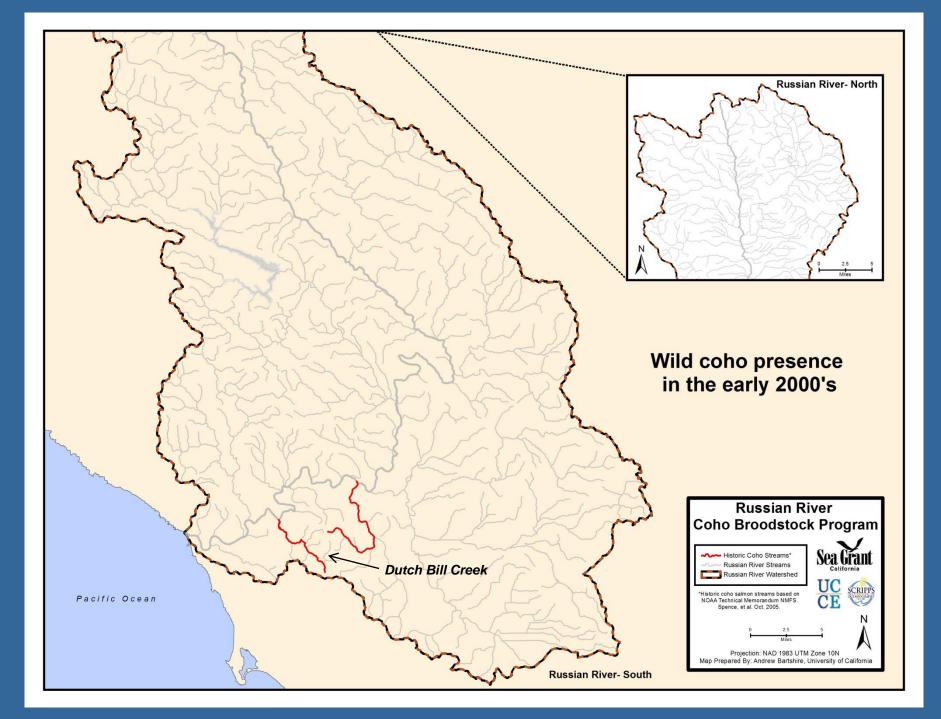
- Coho Partnership
- Fish use of habitat
 enhancement projects

Decline of coho salmon



Source: NOAA fisheries, 2012





Russian River Coho Salmon Captive Broodstock Program

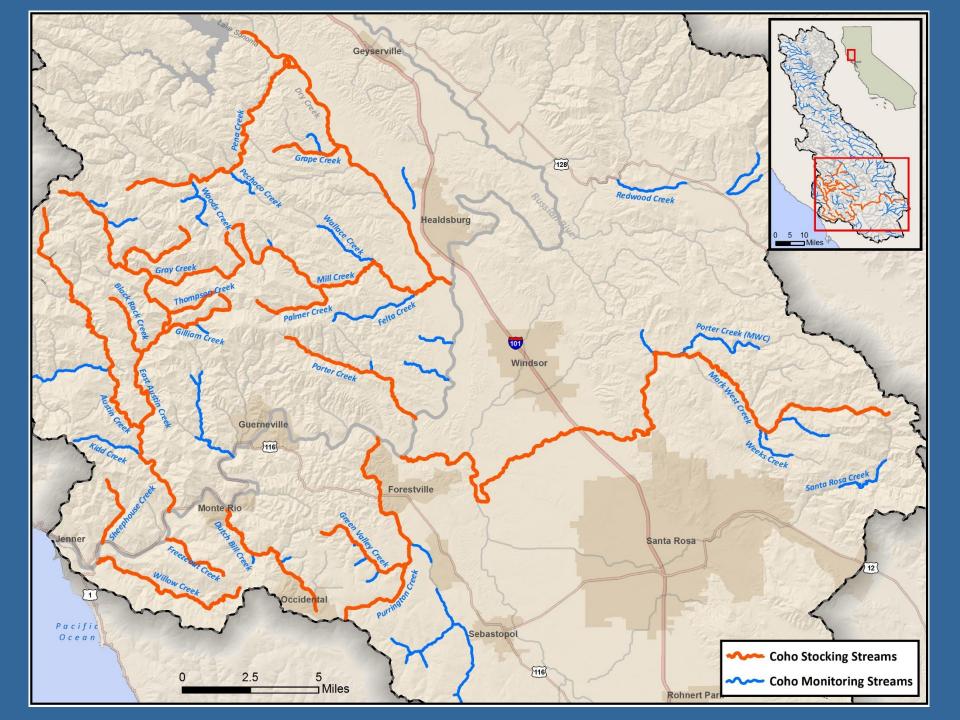
 Extinction of coho salmon in the Russian River basin imminent without immediate intervention

 In 2001, state and federal agencies collaborated with local organizations to create captive broodstock program

 Program Goal: Re-establish self-sustaining runs of native coho salmon in historic coho streams







Adult spawner surveys



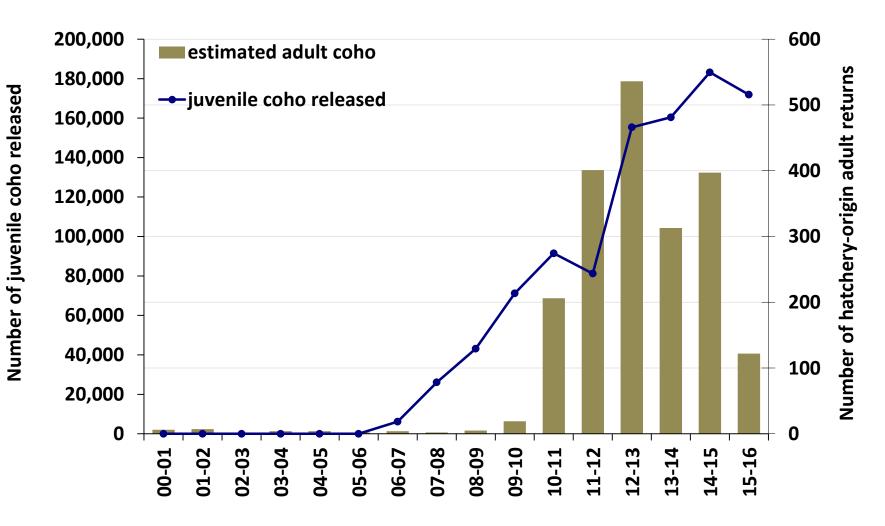


Juvenile snorkel surveys

Downstream migrant smolt trapping

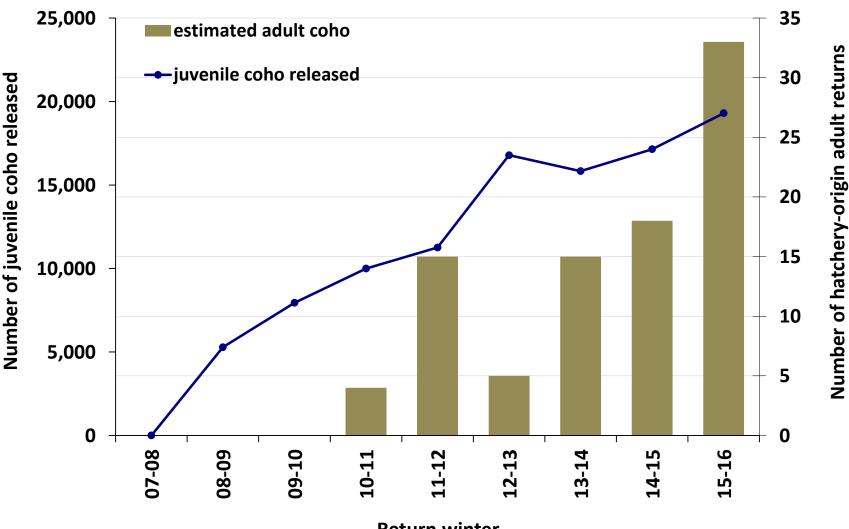


Juvenile releases and corresponding adult coho returns to the Russian River basin



Return winter

Juvenile releases and corresponding adult coho returns to Dutch Bill Creek



Return winter

Dutch Bill Creek juvenile presence



<u>Summer 2015</u>:

estimated 1,300 wild coho (13% of basinwide total)



Low summer streamflow: bottleneck to survival



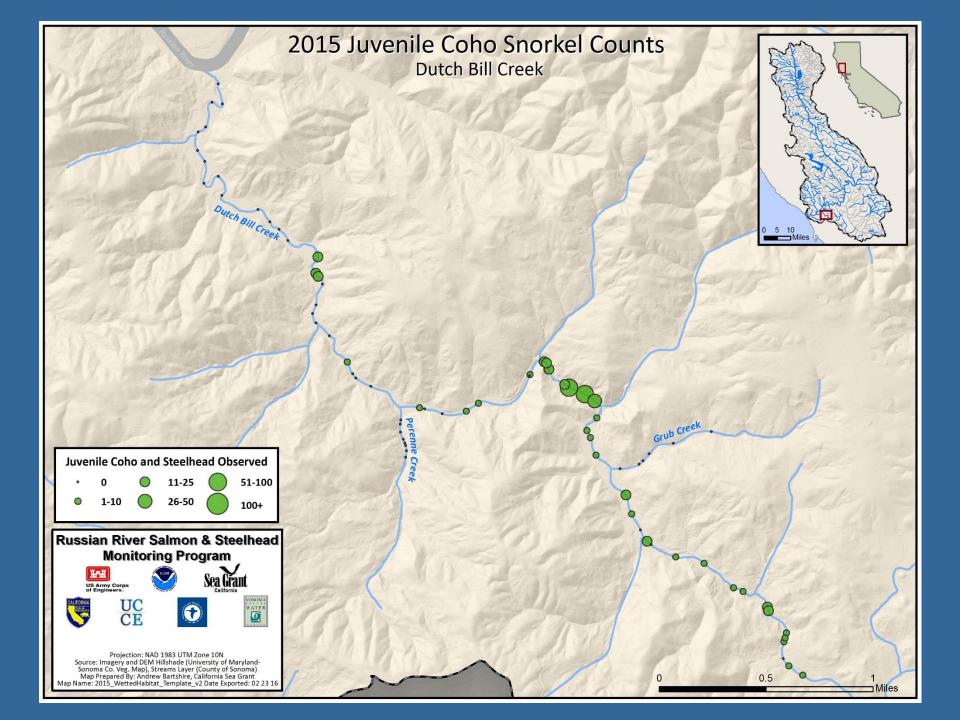


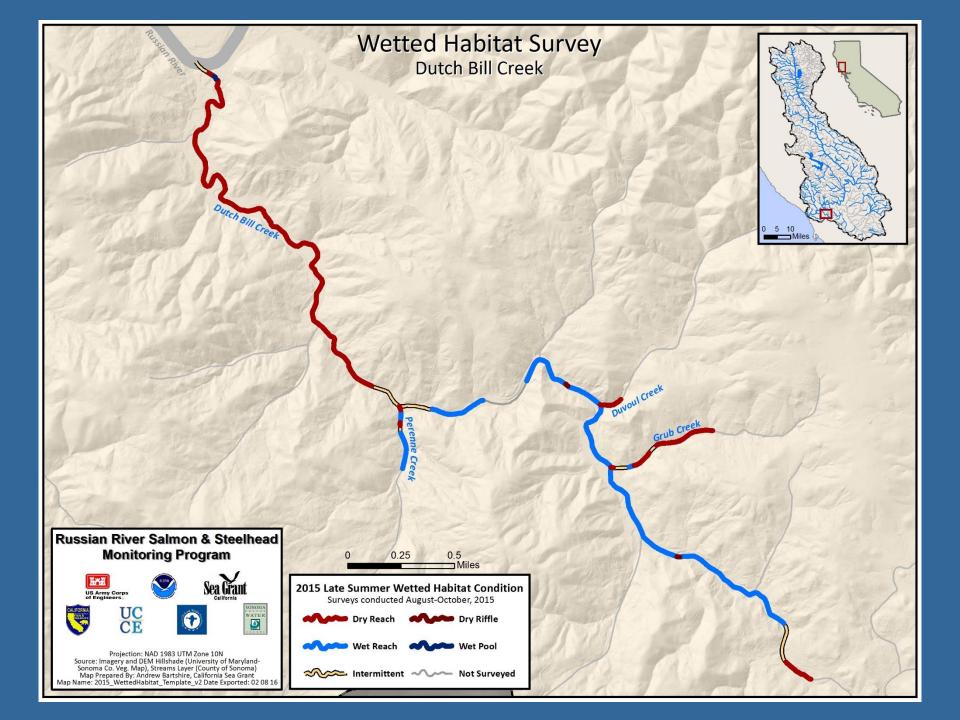


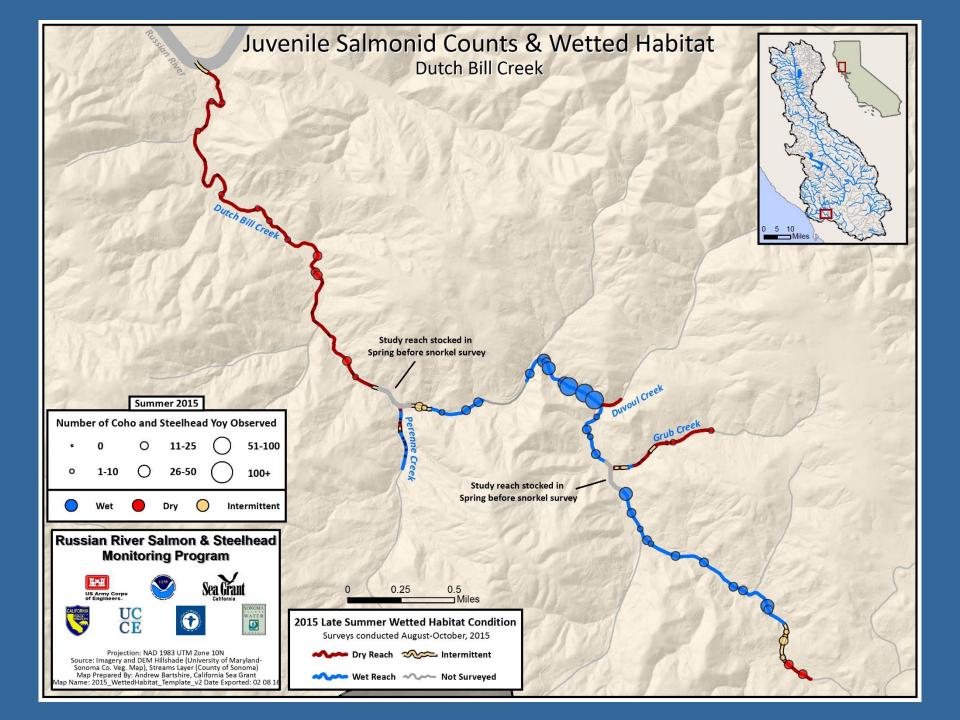
Lower study reach in June



Lower study reach in September

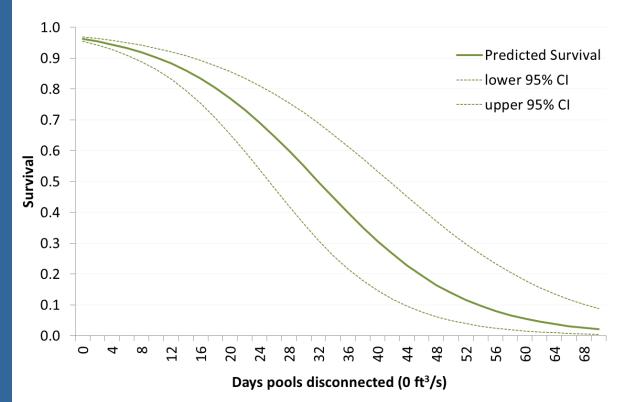


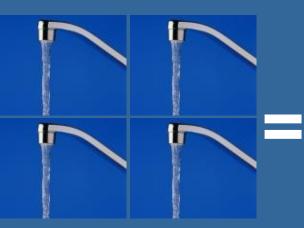




Keeping pools connected is KEY

only a very small amount of water is needed







Survival and Flow: Green Valley reference reach 2010-2013



ca-sgep/ucsd.edu/RussianRiverCoho