

Memorandum

Date: October 8, 2003

To: Kathy Hill
Department of Fish and Game
Region 2
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

From: Department of Water Resources

Subject: For Your Files: 1998 Lake Davis Creel Census

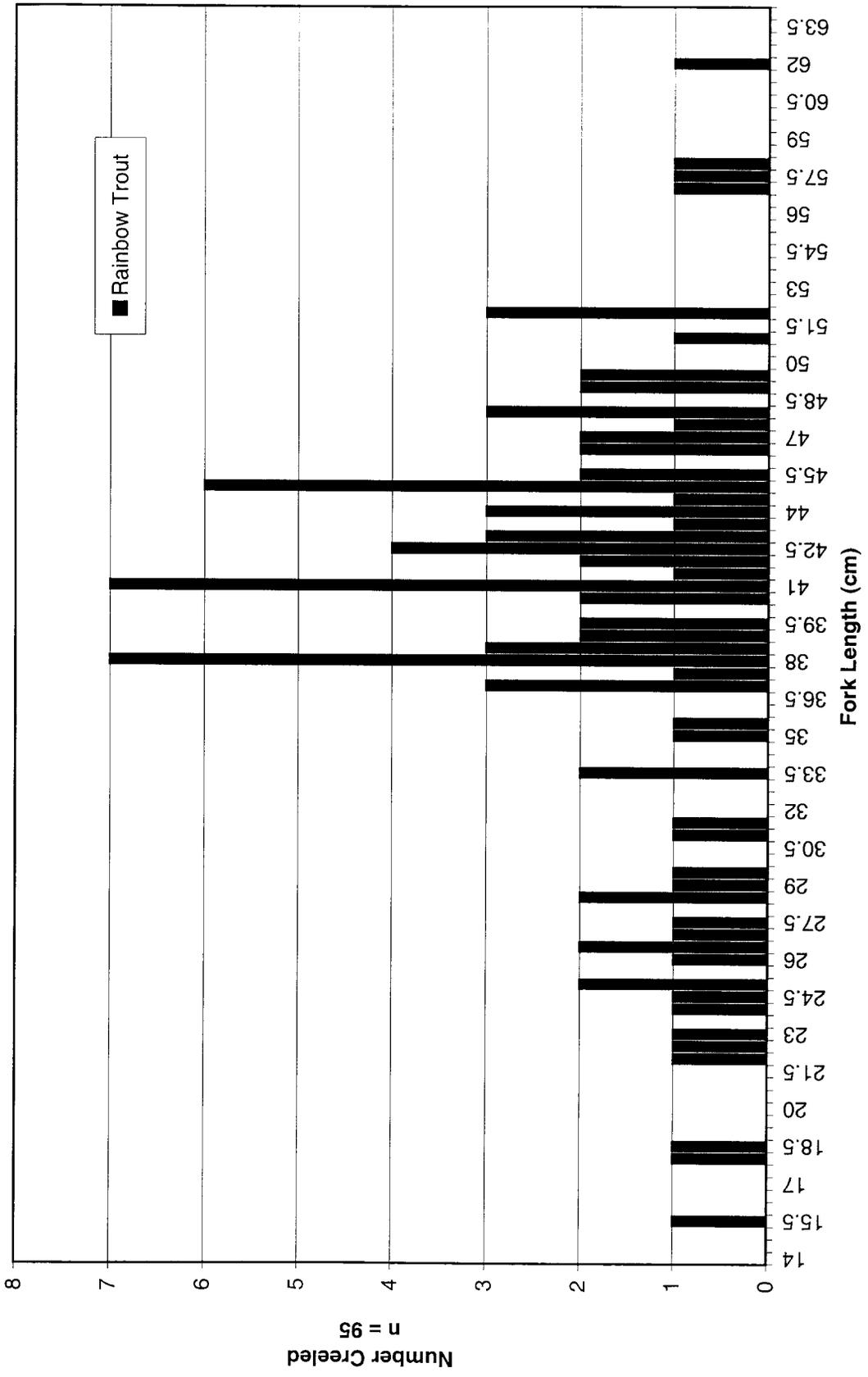
The Department of Fish and Game conducted a chemical treatment of Lake Davis, Plumas County during late October 1997 and the lake and adjacent recreation facilities were closed to all public use on October 14, 1997. On July 10, 1998, the lake was declared safe for public use and opened to recreation use. Trout were planted on the previous day, July 9, 1998, and on a number of days thereafter, however, we did not obtain the numbers of fish or dates they were planted.

During the summer and fall 1998, the California Department of Water Resources, Northern District conducted an angler survey at Lake Davis, Plumas County. Surveys were made on 14 days between July 11 and November 14. Anglers were interviewed to determine hours fished, terminal gear, whether they fished from boat or shore, where they were from, and the species, number, and size of fish caught.

During the survey, conducted concurrently with a survey of Big Grizzly Creek downstream from Grizzly Valley Dam, we contacted 187 anglers at Lake Davis, who reported they fished 548 hours, with an observed total catch of 117 rainbow trout (0.21 trout per hour). Ninety-five trout were measured (Figure 1). The mean length of rainbow trout caught and retained by anglers was 39.4 cm (15.5 in) fork length, among 95 fish ranging from 15.5 to 62.0 cm (6.1 to 24.4 in) fork length. An additional 100 rainbow trout were reported caught and released. About 43 percent of the anglers fished exclusively with bait, 48 percent with a combination of bait and lures, 6 percent with lures only, and the remaining 3 percent with some combination of bait, flies, and lures. Fifty-nine anglers had completed fishing for the day when surveyed. These anglers had fished an average of 4.0 hours.

Shore anglers were represented by 108 anglers fishing 249 hours and taking 51 rainbows (0.20 trout/hour). They reported catching and releasing 37 additional rainbow trout.

Figure 1
 Length-Frequency of Censused Rainbow Trout
 Lake Davis, 1998



Boat anglers totaled 79 anglers with a catch of 66 rainbow trout in 299 hours of fishing (0.22 trout/hour). They reported catching and releasing an additional 63 rainbow trout.

The results indicated angler success at Lake Davis in 1998 was generally comparable or slightly better than pre-treatment years (1990-1996). A comparison of our three surveys, and also creel census information collected by the California Department of Fish and Game, is presented in Table 1. However, the comparability of DWR and DFG results is limited because the DFG surveys covered only 2 to 6 days each year and represent predominantly boat anglers.

Table 1. Lake Davis Creel Census Comparison (RT = Rainbow Trout, BBH = Brown Bullhead, LMB = Largemouth Bass)

Agency/Year	Days Surveyed	Censused Anglers	Hours Recorded	RT Kept	RT Catch/Hr	BBH Caught	LMB Caught
DFG (1990)	3	122	338.25	88	0.26	43	18
DFG (1992)	2	105	333.75	63	0.19	40	8
DFG (1993)	2	76	222.5	22	0.10	3	2
DWR (1994)	27	789	2,706.0	460	0.17	97	2
DFG (1994)	5	194	573.25	117	0.20	0	0
DFG (1995)	6	121	327.5	89	0.27	2	1
DFG (1996)	6	228	733.5	153	0.21	0	0
DWR (1997)	28	344	1,086	121	0.11	19	1
DWR (1998)	14	187	548	117	0.21	0	0

In 1998, Lake Davis angler origin was predominantly from Nevada (37 percent, mainly Reno/Sparks); followed by the Sacramento Valley counties (19 percent, mostly Sacramento County), Mountain counties (18 percent, mostly Placer County), Northeastern counties (16 percent, all Plumas County), the San Francisco Bay Area (7 percent), and San Joaquin Valley (3 percent).

Information on boating use and boater origin at Lake Davis was not collected in 1998, as it had been in previous years.

Kathy Hill
October 8, 2003
Page 3

If you have any questions or require additional information on this or other related DWR data collection efforts, please contact me at (530) 529-7393 or hintonr@water.ca.gov.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Ralph Hinton
Retired Annuitant

cc: Ken Kendargi
Department of Fish and Game
Region 2
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Lori Powers
Department of Fish and Game
Portola Field Office
Post Office Box 1858
Portola, California 96122

Attachment (Figure 1)

RHinton: Lori Miles

ACorrespondenceMemo1395

Spell Check: October 8, 2003