



**A Brief History of the  
California Legislature's  
Annual Fisheries Forum –  
Where It Has Been and Some  
of the Chores Ahead**

**Bill Kier**

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California Advisory Committee on  
Salmon and Steelhead Trout**

SACRAMENTO RIVER SYSTEM  
SALMON AND STEELHEAD PROBLEMS  
AND ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

A report to the  
CALIFORNIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ON SALMON AND STEELHEAD TROUT

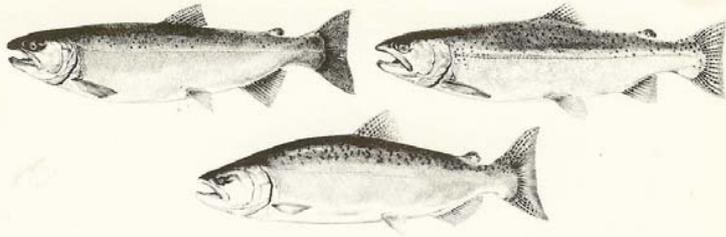
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by  
Richard J. Hallock

June 22, 1987

**Dick Hallock's  
1987 report to the  
Advisory Committee  
Warned of the  
growing reliance on  
Sacramento River  
hatchery salmon**

SEP -- 2001



**RESTORING  
THE BALANCE**

**California Advisory Committee  
on Salmon and Steelhead Trout**

**1988 ANNUAL REPORT**



**The Advisory  
Committee's 1988  
Report Advanced  
Major Salmon  
Conservation  
Legislation**



Maximizing Compatibility Between  
Coleman National Fish Hatchery Operations,  
Management of Lower Battle Creek, and  
Salmon and Steelhead Restoration



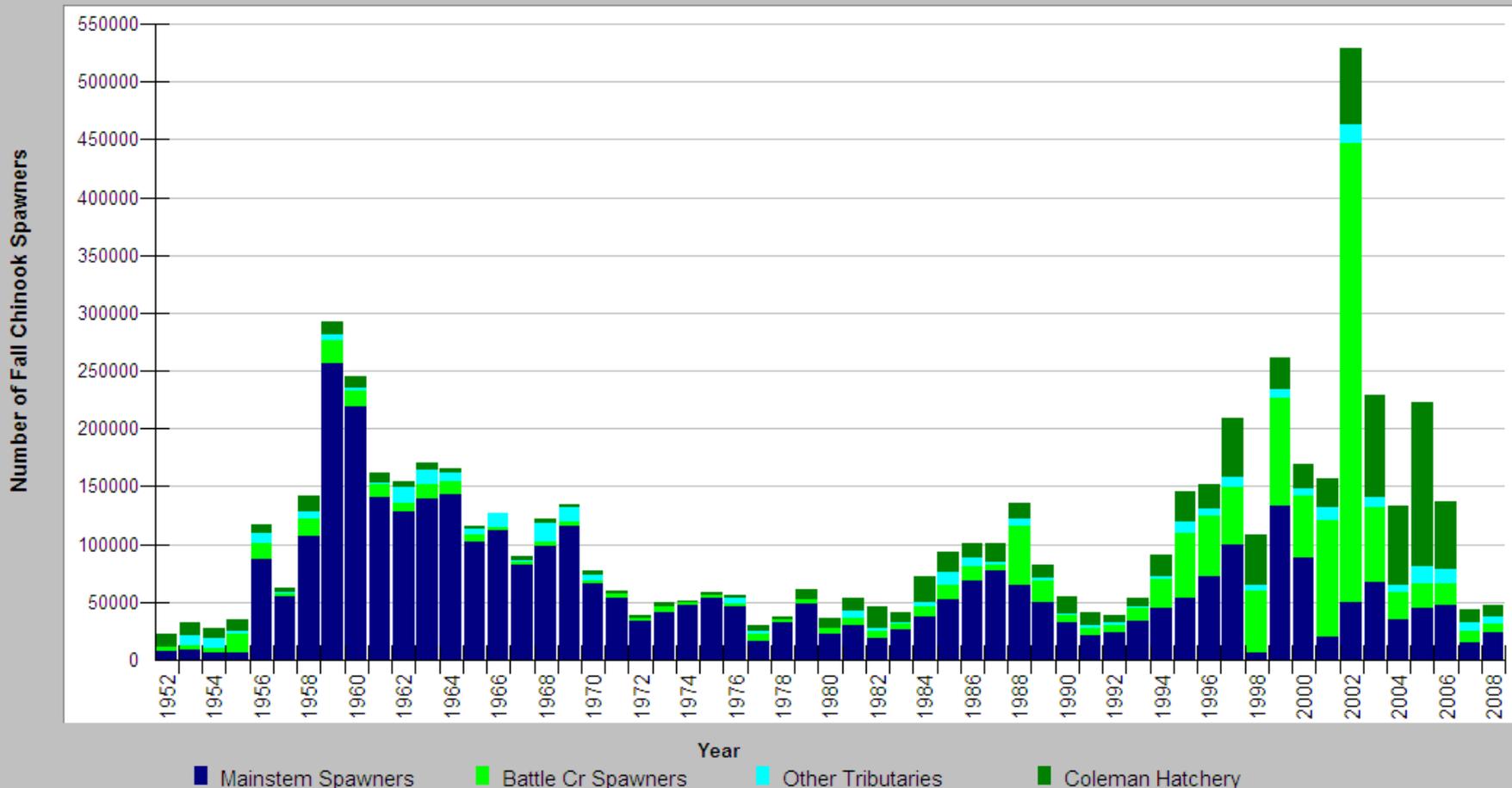
Prepared for the  
Battle Creek Working Group  
by  
Kier Associates  
Sausalito, California

April 1999

[www.krisweb.com/biblio/battle\\_xxxx\\_wardetal\\_1999\\_restplan.pdf](http://www.krisweb.com/biblio/battle_xxxx_wardetal_1999_restplan.pdf)

**The Battle Creek  
Working Group's  
1999 report proposed  
connecting Coleman  
Hatchery directly to  
the Sacramento River**

Total Fall Chinook Escapement to the Sacramento River Above Red Bluff 1952-2008



**Sacramento River fall-run chinook salmon returns to the upper spawning grounds (Red Bluff Diversion Dam up to the end-of-the-line at Keswick Dam) have gone from mostly wild to mostly hatchery-origin fish which gang into Battle Creek and lure wild fish there (total of 450,000 salmon crowded into the creek in 2002)**

March XX, 2009

Rowan W. Gould, Acting Director  
U.S Fish & Wildlife Service  
4401 N. Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Mr Gould

The Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture convened its 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Fisheries Forum at the State Capitol in Sacramento on March 26, 2009. The Committee was briefed on a number of issues, including the recent collapse of the Sacramento River fall-run chinook salmon ("SRFC") population.

This disastrous salmon population's crash is the subject of a report released recently by National Marine Fisheries Service (see <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/media/SalmonDeclineReport>). The report's lead author, NMFS ecologist Steve Lindley summed up the situation this way: "Poor ocean conditions triggered the collapse. But what primed it is the degradation of estuary and river habitats and the heavy reliance on hatcheries over the years".

During our briefing we learned of at least two ways in which the United States Fish & Wildlife Service ("Service") appears to be involved with issues concerning the degradation of the Sacramento-San Joaquin rivers Delta and estuary, on the one hand, and the hatchery production of fall-run chinook salmon, on the other -- the two issues which Mr Lindley says primed the collapse of the SRFC.

The briefing raised at least two questions that we would appreciate your answering for us. These are :

- 1- Is it not, in fact, your Service's policy to release the juvenile fall-run chinook salmon produced at your Coleman National Fish Hatchery (Coleman) into the upper Sacramento River in the vicinity of the hatchery, itself ?, and
- 2- Is the Service no longer investigating the reconfiguration of Coleman in order to end the destructive crowding of fall-run chinook spawners into lower Battle Creek ?

Since the origins of our questions go back 20 and ten years, respectively, we would like to provide you here what we know of their context.

California's State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) conducted extensive, quasi-judicial proceedings between 1986 and 1988 concerning the freshwater outflows needed to meet salinity control objectives in -- and to assure effective outmigration of salmon through -- the Sacramento-San Joaquin rivers Delta and estuary.

The Service played a prominent role in those proceedings.

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**I suggest that the Joint Legislative Fisheries Committee get some answers from the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's Director about the Delta and Coleman National Fish Hatchery**



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