



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office
10950 Tyler Road, Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone: (530) 527-3043; FAX (530) 529-0292



Date: March 24, 2021

To: Distribution List

From: Kevin Offill, Fish Biologist
Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office

Subject: Planned Experimental Release of Brood Year 2020 Juvenile Fall Chinook Salmon into Battle Creek and Sacramento River

On March 24 and 26, 2021, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will conduct an experimental paired release of approximately 370,000 brood year 2020 fall Chinook salmon from the Coleman National Fish Hatchery (Table 1). These fish are 100% coded-wire tagged and marked with an adipose-fin clip. The purpose of this experimental release is to evaluate the use of acclimation net pens for release of Coleman National Fish Hatchery fall Chinook Salmon trucked downstream in comparison to the standard on-site release. When available, final release information will be submitted to the RMIS database (www.rmhc.org). For questions concerning this release, please contact Kevin Offill at (530) 527-3043.

TABLE 1—Planned release summary of Coleman National Fish Hatchery brood year 2020 fall Chinook salmon experimental group.

| Release | | CWT | Fork Length (mm) <i>estimated average</i> | Count | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Date | Location | Code or Mark | | With CWT and Mark ¹ | Total |
| March 24, 2021 | Battle Creek at | 05 65 70 | 75 | 92,898 | 92,89 |
| | Coleman NFH | 05 65 73 | 75 | 92,497 | 92,497 |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | <i>185,395</i> | <i>185,395</i> |
| March 26, 2021 | Sacramento River | 05 65 71 | 75 | 92,262 | 92,262 |
| | at Scotty's Landing | 05 65 72 | 75 | 94,415 | 94,415 |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | <i>186,677</i> | <i>186,677</i> |
| <i>Grand Total</i> | | | | <i>372,072</i> | <i>372,072</i> |

¹ Total number of fish with a coded-wire tag (CWT) and an adipose fin clip (Mark) for groups receiving a CWT or total number of fish with a Mark for groups only receiving an adipose fin clip. For this planned release notice, retention was assumed to be 100% for any applied CWT or Mark.