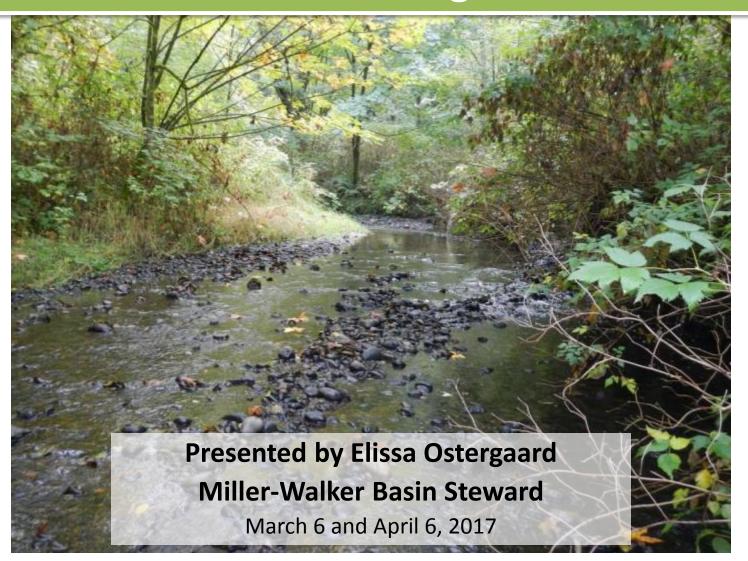
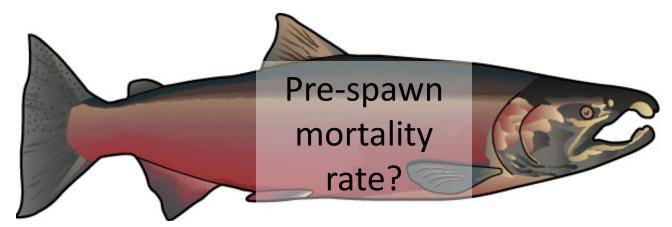
Community Salmon Investigation (CSI) for Highline: 2016 Findings





What percent of coho died before spawning in Miller and Walker Creeks in 2016?

The "pre-spawn mortality" rate is the percent of returning adult female coho that died before spawning – as indicated by a dead fish that had a belly full of eggs and no sign of damage by a predator.

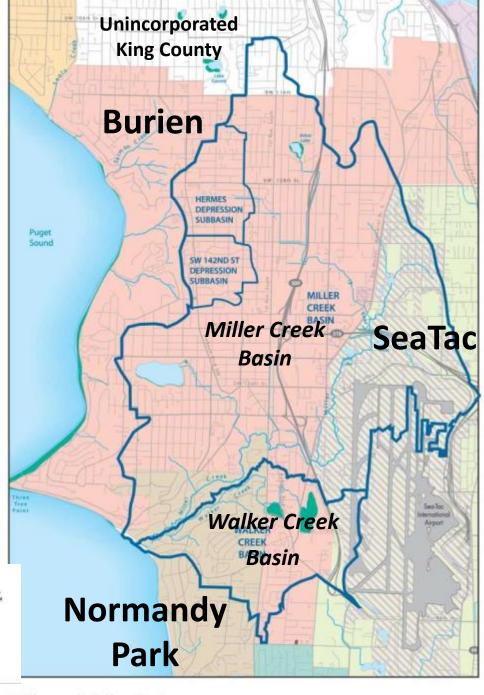
Whoever guesses closest will win something "fishy"! Complete the slip and place in the orange bucket.

Basin Boundaries for Miller and Walker Creeks



Legend





Community Salmon Investigation for Highline - 2016 Results

- 1. Purpose of Community Salmon Investigation: Highline
- 2. How *CSI: Highline* works
 - Stream surveys
 - Necropsies
 - Survey locations
- 3. Results of October December surveys
 - Summary data
 - Analysis
 - Weather and Wildlife
 - Thank you to volunteers
- 4. Plans for 2017
- 5. Factors affecting stream and salmon health
- 6. Our role!

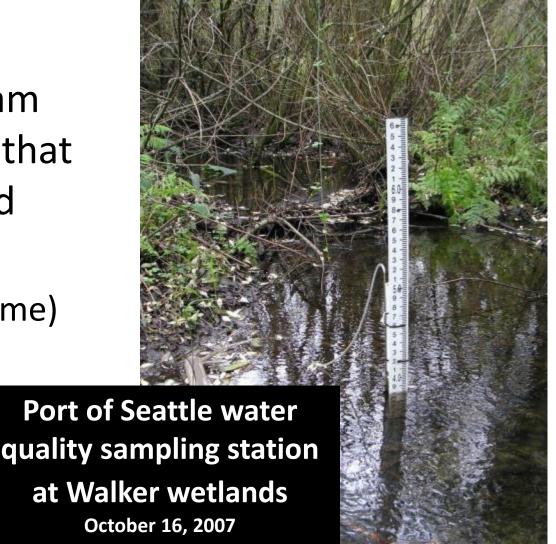
1) Purpose of CSI



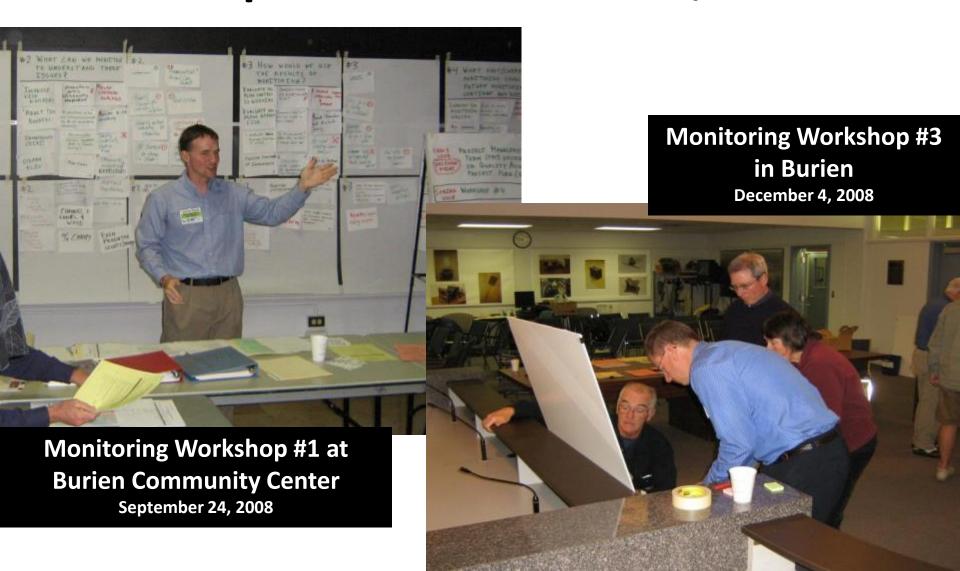
Draft 2006 Basin Plan Recommendation on Monitoring

An on-going basin monitoring program should be started that will allow for trend analysis of:

- Stream flow (volume)
- Water quality
- Habitat data



Basin Monitoring Coordination Workshops with Dennis Clark, Fall 2008





Home How do I... ▼ Services ▼ About King County ▼ Departments ▼

Watersheds, rivers and streams

Central Puget Sound

You're in: Central Puget Sound Watershed » Miller and Walker Creeks Stewardship » Monitoring Information

The last of the la

Central	Puget	Sound
Watershed		

Vashon - Maury Island

Miller and Walker Creeks Stewardship

Stewardship Tips

Volunteer Calendar

Stream Blog

Miller Creek Photo Tour
Walker Creek Photo Tour

Basin Plan

Clean Stormwater

Monitoring Information

Salmon Monitoring Program - "CSI: Highline"

Contacts

Hydrologic Modeling

Nearshore environments

Puget Sound Shoreline Stewardship Guidebook

Related organizations

News archive

Site Map

To offer a suggestion or report an error on the

Water and Land Resources' Web site, please contact <u>Fred</u> <u>Bentler</u>, webmaster.

Monitoring Information: How Are Miller and Walker Creeks Doing?

This page provides information on:

- · Current and Past Monitoring
- · Community Salmon Investigation for Highline
- · Monitoring Sampling and Analysis Plan
- Final Monitoring Coordination Recommendations
- Background Information on Monitoring Coordination Workshops in 2008

Current and Past Monitoring

General flow, water quality and other stream condition monitoring in 2012-2013 (Adobe PDF, 2MB)

Water Quantity (Hydrology or Flow)

Stream Gage Information

There are five active gages and additional inactive gages that record flow in Miller and Walker Creeks. At the King County website, type in the number "42" to list all gages on Miller and Walker Creeks. This Web site will allow you to display information in graph form to illustrate the dramatic peaks of stormwater runoff.

Hydrologic Modeling

While not a source of current data from the stream, this page provides background on how land uses affect flow in the streams by influencing the volume of stormwater runoff.

Water Quality

2012 Miller Creek Water Quality analysis for Prespawn Mortality - King County (Adobe PDF)

Miller Creek Water Quality Information - Department of Ecology

Walker Creek Water Quality Information - Department of Ecology

Habitat Quality

Miller and Walker Creeks Basin Plan - Appendix C: Habitat Characteristics and Identified Problems of Miller and Walker Creeks

Miller and Walker Basin Stewardship Sponsoring Jurisdictions

- City of Burien
- City of Normandy Park
- City of SeaTac
- King County
- Port of Seattle

Miller-Walker Creek Questions

 □ Contact Elissa Ostergaard with questions about Miller and Walker Creeks, (206) 477-4792

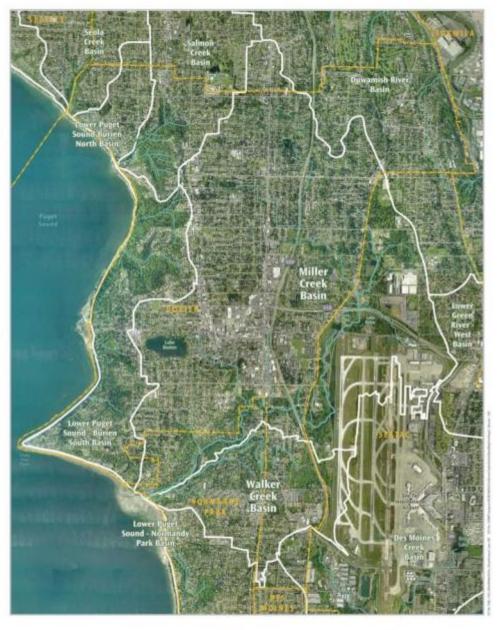
Lake Burien Questions

 Direct questions about Lake Burien, including toxic algae testing, to Sally Abella, (206) 477-4605

Why do CSI: Highline?



- Count adult salmon indicators of the health of the ecosystem
- Document rate of coho "pre-spawn mortality" to see how pollution prevention helps
- Raise the awareness about the streams in the community

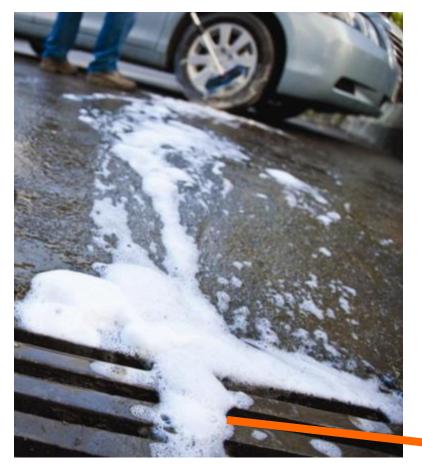


Miller and Walker Creeks

Basin Boundary Update 2010







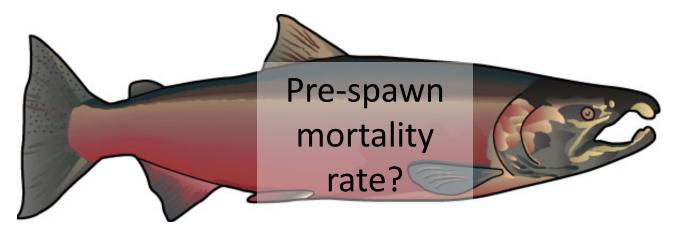
Stormwater is not treated



Testing highway runoff on adult coho



Photo courtesy of Tiffany Royal, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission



What percent of coho died before spawning in Miller and Walker Creeks in 2016?

The answer is some percentage between 0 and 100%.

The "pre-spawn mortality" rate is the percent of returning adult female coho that died before spawning — as indicated by a dead fish that had a belly full of eggs and no sign of damage by a predator.

Whoever guesses closest will win something "fishy"! Complete the slip and place in the orange bucket.

2) How CSI Works

- Methods: Survey Plan for Adult Fish Counting and Coho Prespawn Mortality in Miller and Walker Creeks
- Methods developed by NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service & U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Examine dead female salmon for eggs (=not spawned) and video/photograph pre-spawn mortality symptoms



"Team Wednesday" Brenda and Dahli survey Miller Creek
October 8, 2015

CSI "Cast"

- 31 volunteers from Burien,
 Normandy Park, and Seattle
- Seven daily teams one team for each day of the week
- Teams had 2-6 people some surveyed weekly, some every other week
- Backups filled in



CSI Orientation Workshop

Staff from NOAA or US Fish & Wildlife teach necropsy techniques

Steve Damm, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, October 7, 2010

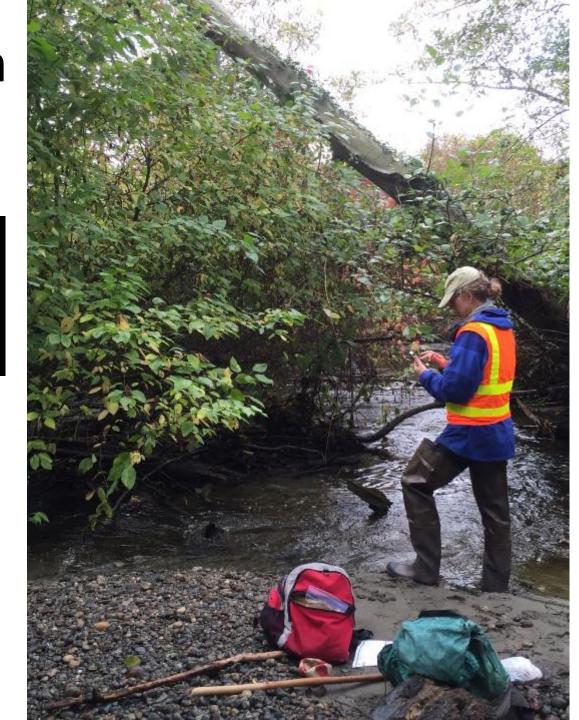






"Team Tuesday" Liesl taking notes

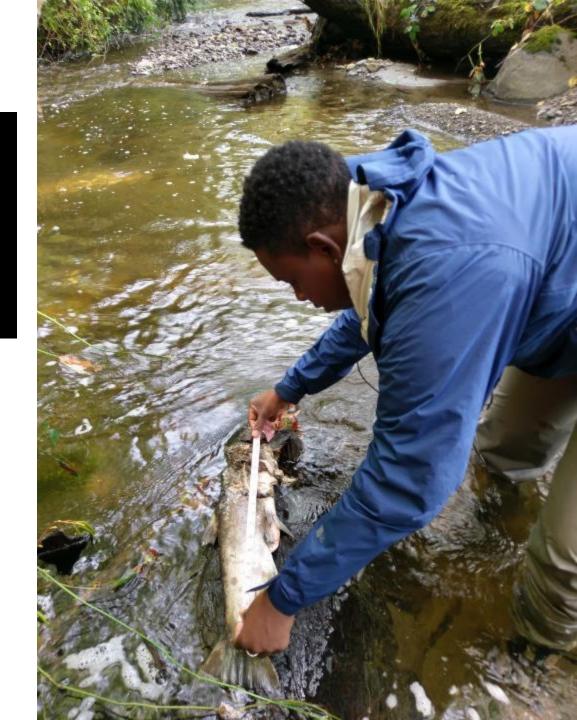
Photo courtesy of Kristine Feldman, 2016





"Team Saturday"
Ashley measuring
a salmon carcass

Photo courtesy of Ashley Townes



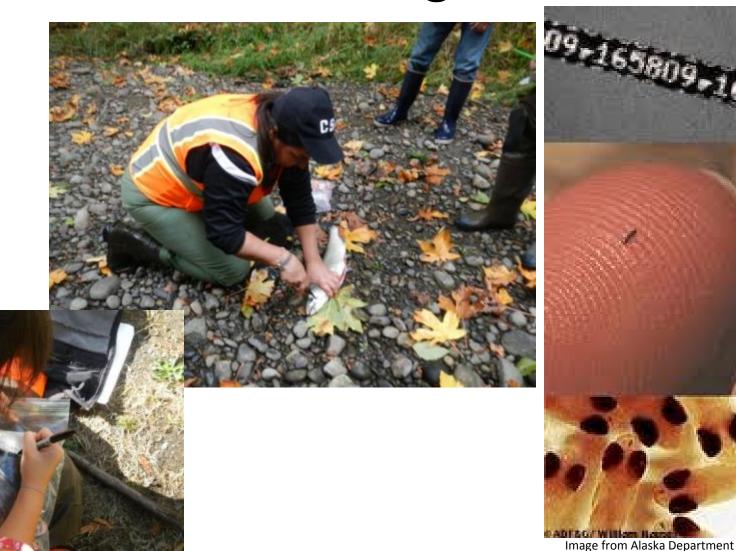








Collecting Coho Heads for Coded Wire Tags

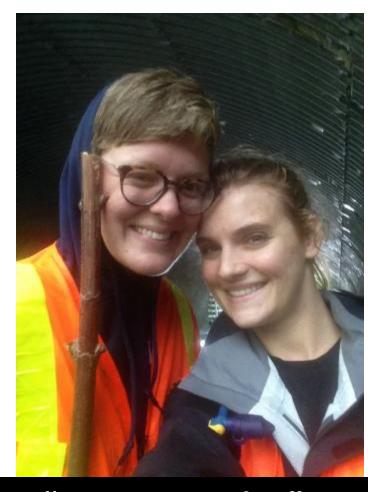


of Fish and Game

CSI in Action – Teamwork!



"Team Sunday" Drew,
Jeremy and Nick
Fall 2014
Photo courtesy of Robin Hoefer



"Team Saturday"
Meghan and Shelby
2016
Photo courtesy of Meghan Schuster



Property Owner Permission Graciously Provided by:

- Clint and Kathy Adams
- Ann and Stephen Backstrom
- Linda and Thomas Beffa
- Brett Fish
- Mark and Sherri Henry
- RH Brecht Sandlian
- Susan Klein
- Normandy Park Community Club
- Normandy Park Swim Club
- Southwest Suburban Sewer District



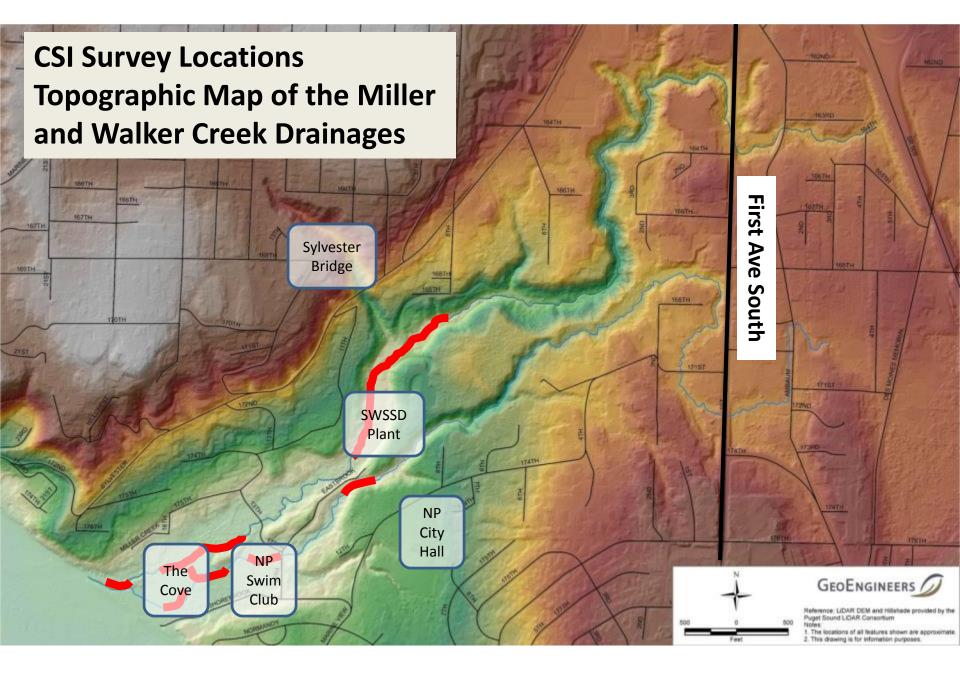


Image courtesy of GeoEngineers and Washington State Department of Transportation

Survey Locations

Four locations

- Two on Miller Creek
 - Lower Miller Sandlian, The Cove, and Adams property
 - Upper Miller Sewer District and Fish property
 - (Above 1st Ave S. not surveyed not many fish and difficult access)
- Two on Walker Creek
 - Upper Walker Beffa, Backstrom, Henry properties (shorter than past years)
 - Lower Walker The Cove, Swim Club

Upper Walker Creek Survey Area - CSI Highline



The hitomation is children as has been complied by king Consty startifion a variety of sources and is subject to change with outside. King Constyrmakes no representations of warranties, expression implied, as to accuracy, completeness, the liness, or tight to the use of such information. This document is not hit haded for use as a survey product. Mag Consty shall not be table for any general, special, indirect, incidental, or consequental damages including, but not limited to, instrumentees or betprofits as sufficient manual or the use of the hitomation contained on this map. Any sale of this map or hitomation on this map is prohibited except by written permission of king Consty.

Date: 10/3/2016

Notes:



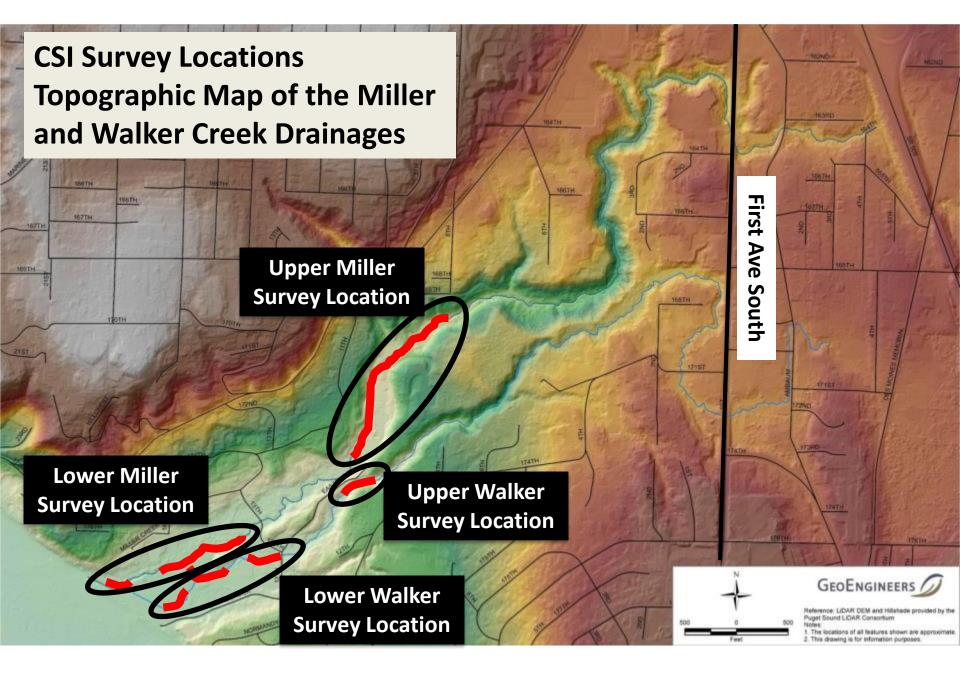
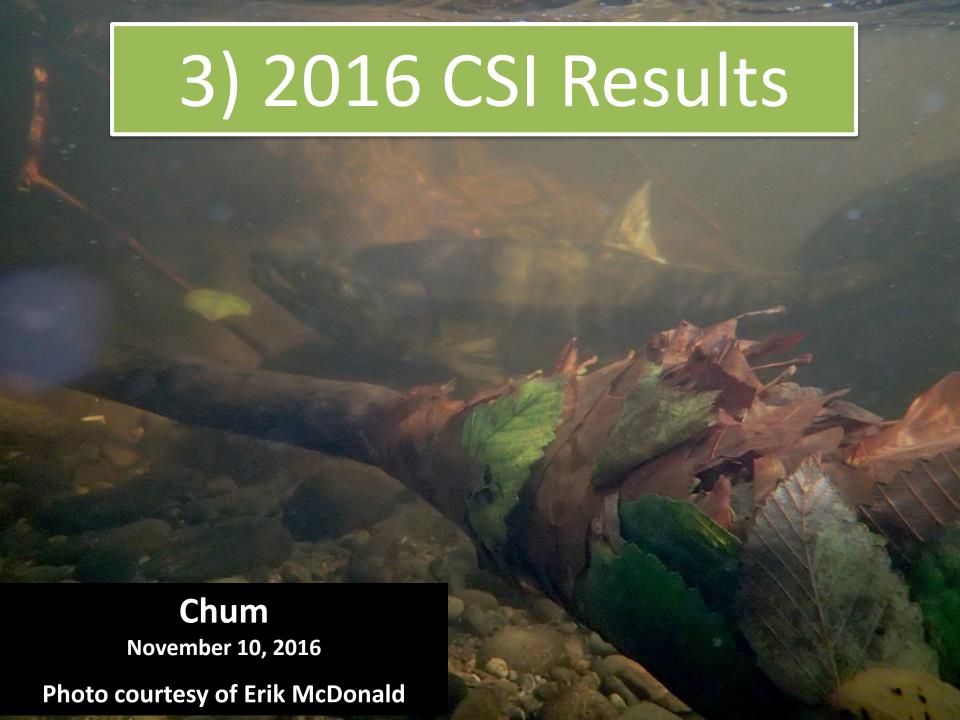
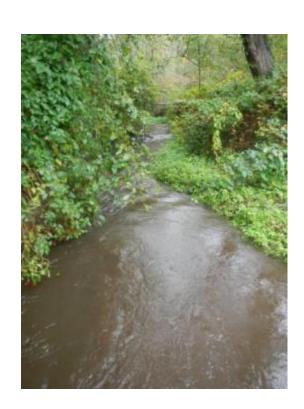


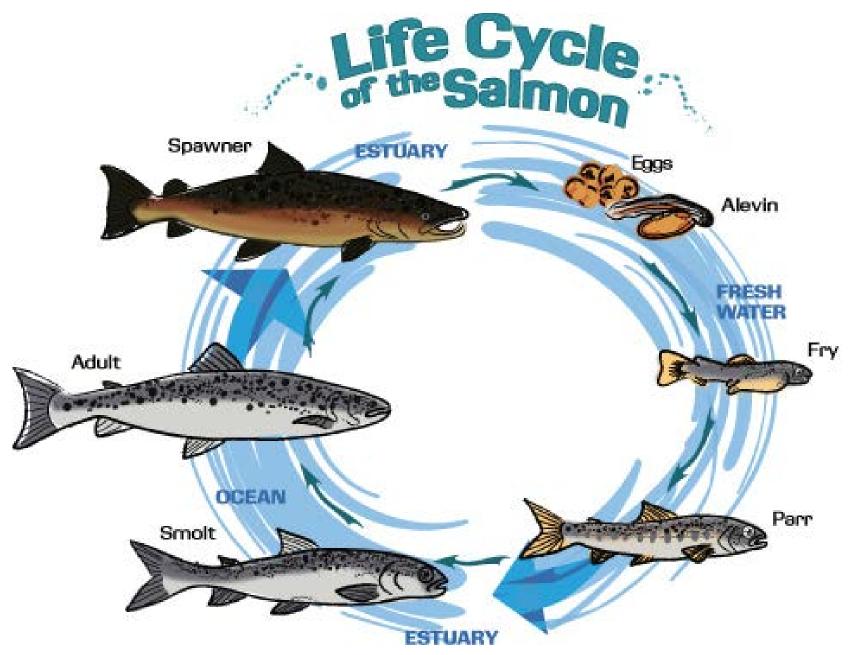
Image courtesy of GeoEngineers and Washington State Department of Transportation



CSI Survey Days

- Surveyed October 8 December 19, 2016
- 73 days in season, surveyed 57
- Surveyed during daylight hours
- Days missed (15) for:
 - Rain & wind
 - High water, no visibility





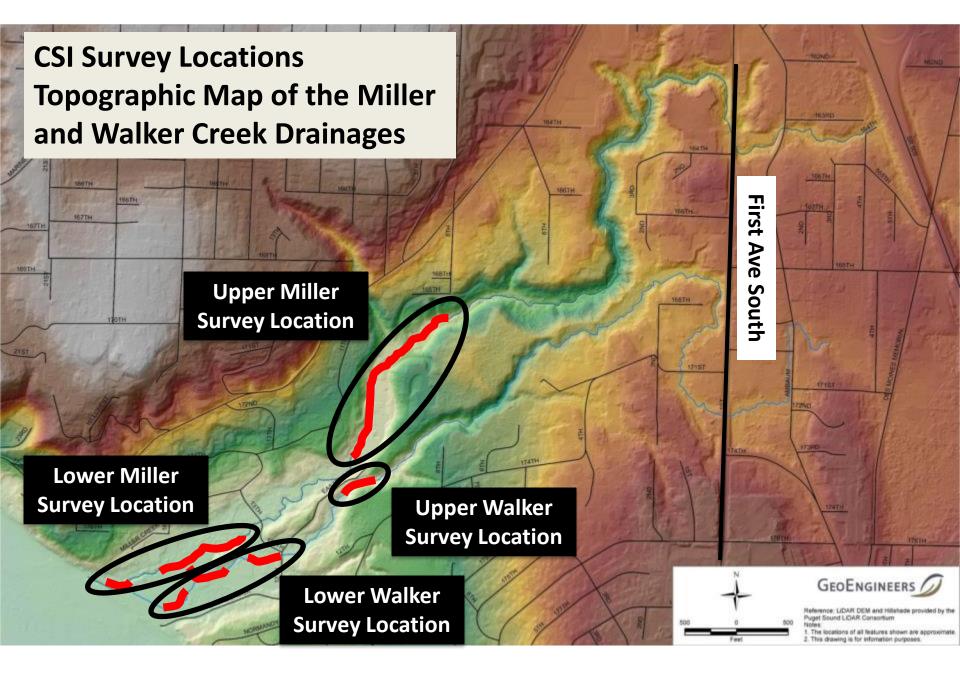


Image courtesy of GeoEngineers and Washington State Department of Transportation

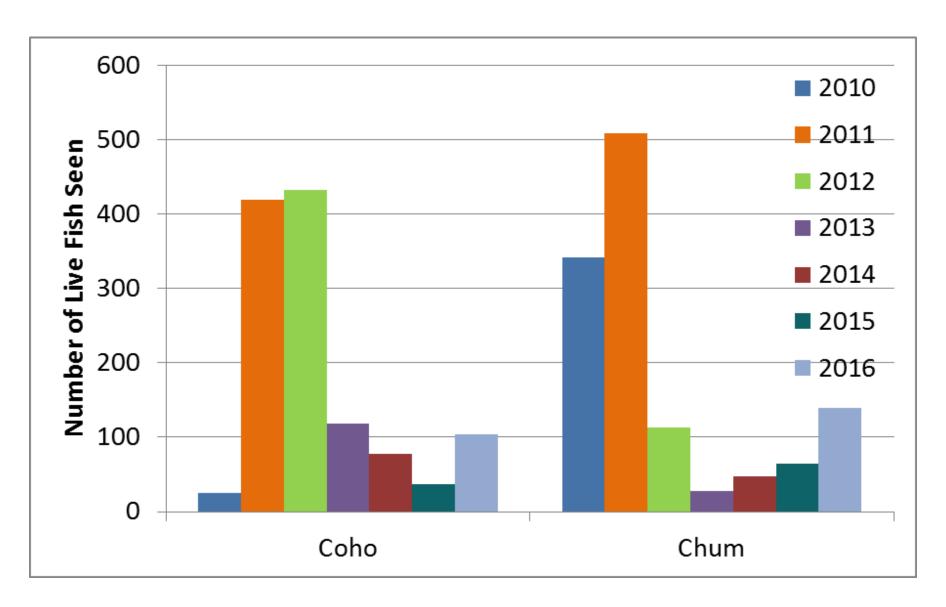
Results: Live Fish Observations

Species	Coho	Chum	Unidentified Adults ??
Miller Creek	61	93	42
Walker Creek	43	46	11
Total	104	136	53

GRAND TOTAL: 294 live fish seen

Unidentified adults were 17% of total fish observed.

Results: 2010-2016





Coho: 3-year Life History

October-Nov 2013 Spawned

Early 2014 Hatched

Early 2014 – early 2015 Rearing in stream

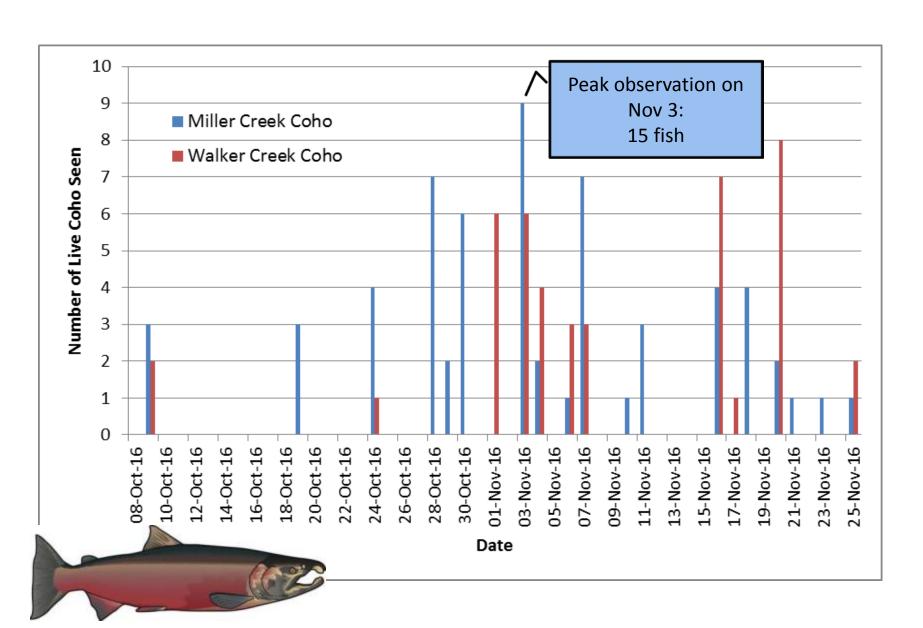
Early 2015 Migration to salt water

 Early 2015 – October 2016 Rearing in Puget Sound and Pacific Ocean

 October – November 2016 Migration upstream, spawning, death

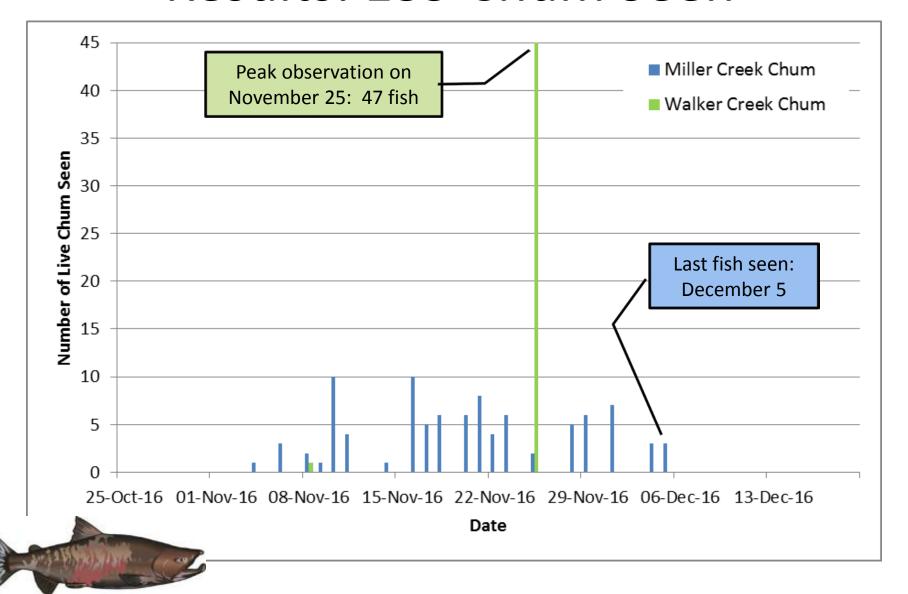
Early 2017
 New fish hatch

Results: 104 Coho Seen





Results: 139 Chum Seen



What affects fish numbers?

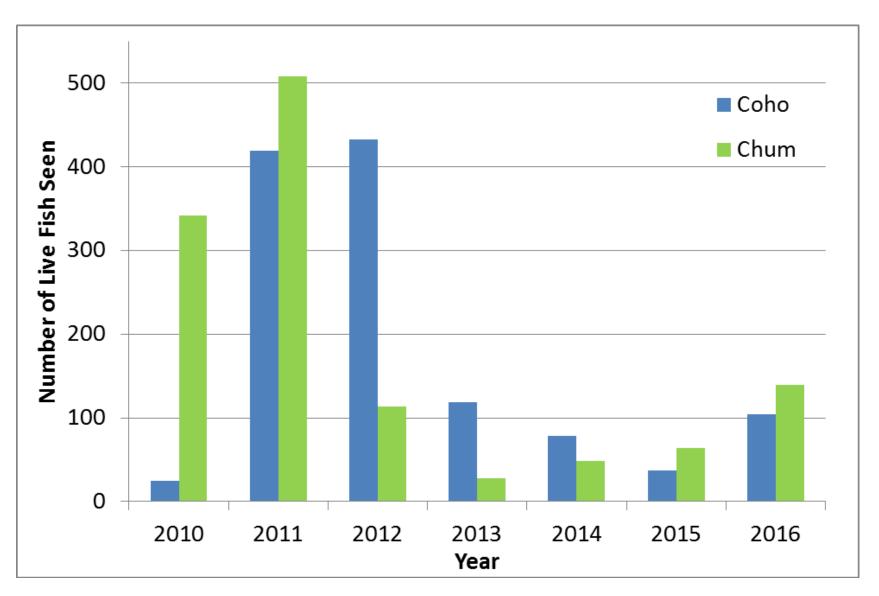
- Survival of eggs and young fish
 - Winter floods
 - Spring floods
 - Food available in creeks (coho)
 - Chemical contaminants
 - Predators
- Number of returning adults that spawn
 - Food available in Puget Sound/Pacific Ocean
 - Predators (marine and fresh water)
 - Water temperatures
 - Harvest rates
 - Chemical contaminants
 - Migration barriers



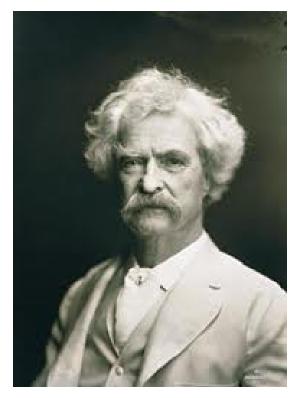
Chum: 4-year Life History

- Nov. December 2012 Spawned
- Early 2013 Hatched and migrated to salt water
- Early 2013 Nov. 2016 Rearing in Puget Sound and Pacific Ocean
- Nov. December 2016 Migration upstream, spawning, death
- Early 2017 Eggs hatch & migrate to Puget Sound

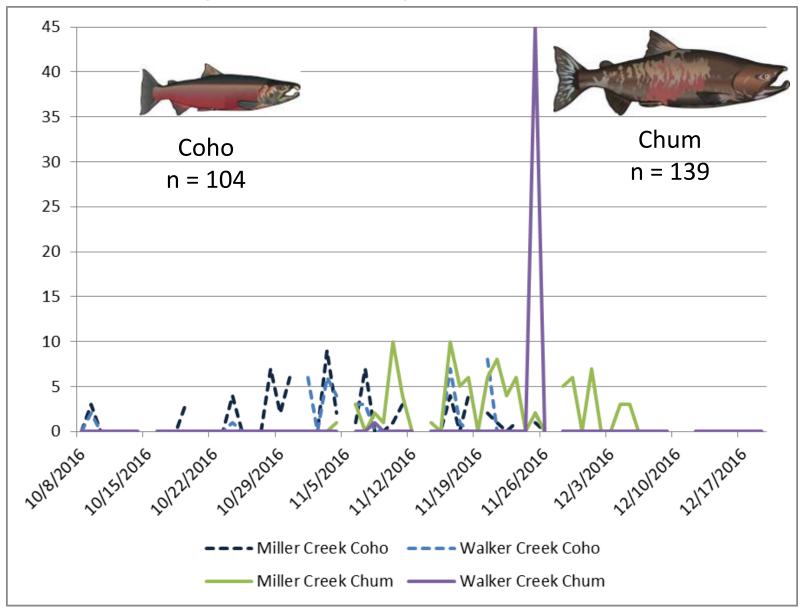
Results: 2010-2016

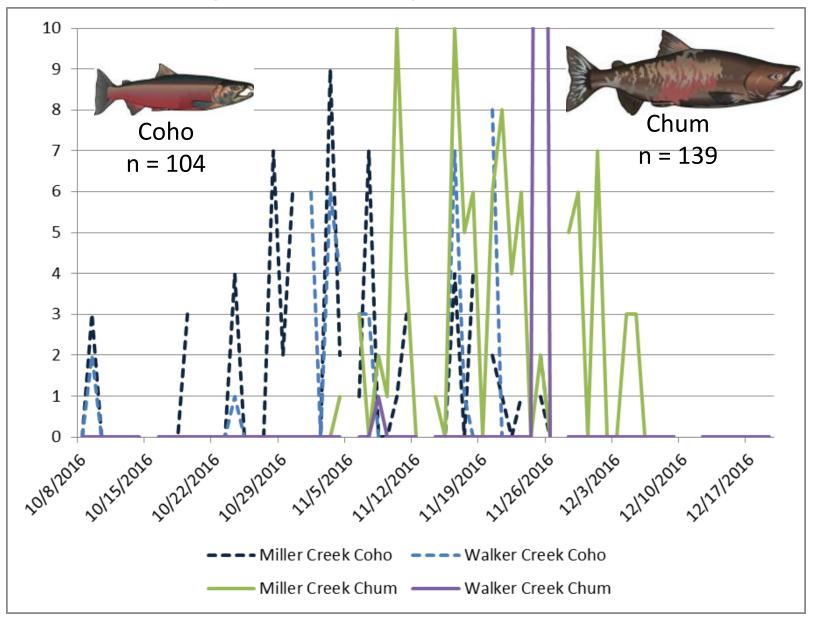


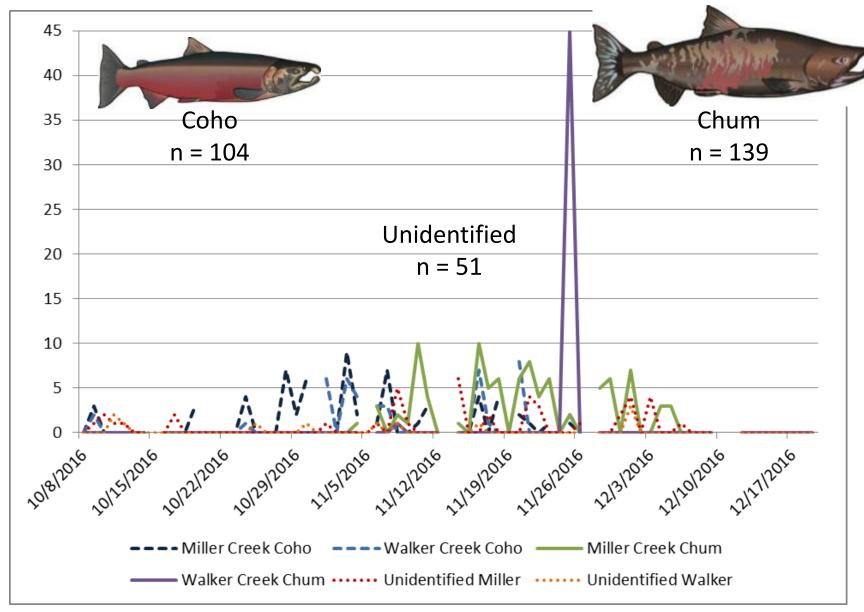
There is something fascinating about science. One gets such wholesale returns of conjecture out of such a trifling investment of fact.



Mark Twain



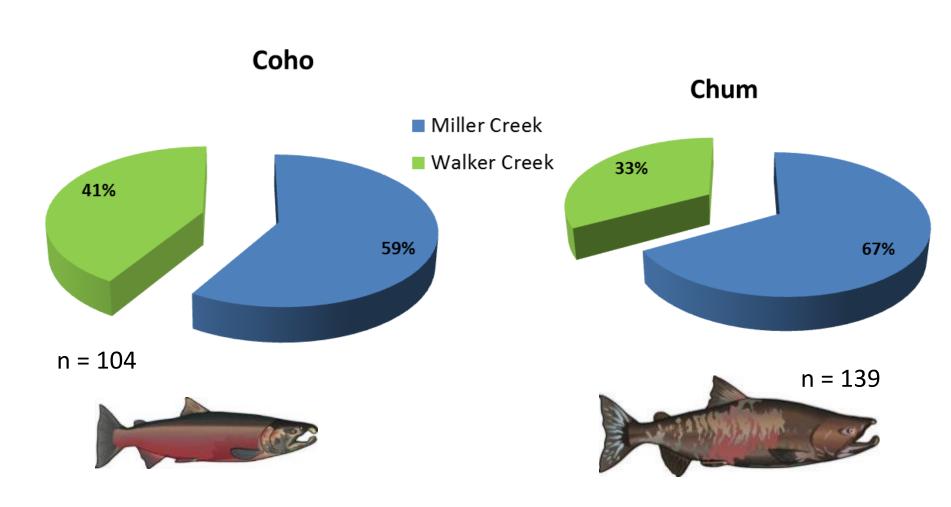






Walker Creek – partial blockage in 2015 & 2016





Estimated Population

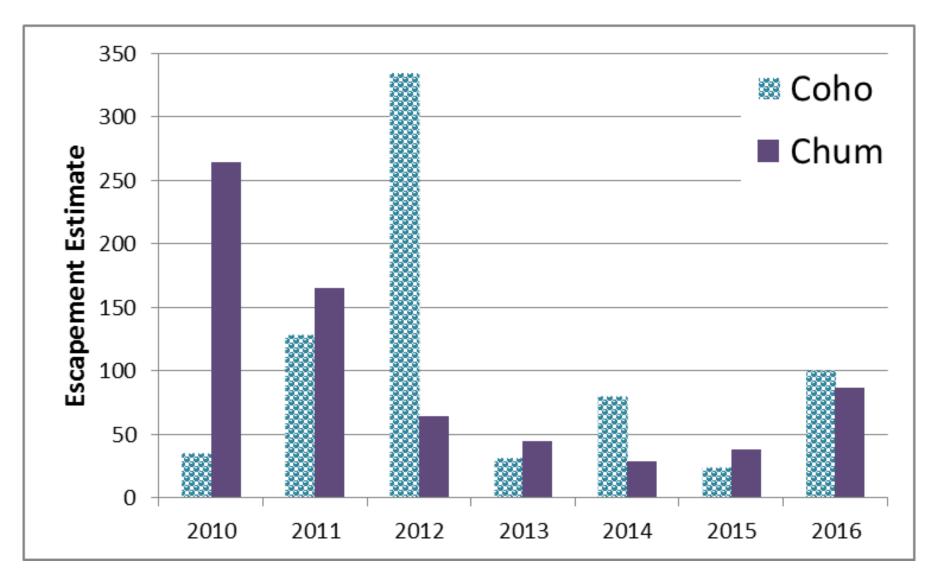
Species	Coho	Chum	Total
Miller Creek	75	71	
Walker Creek	26	15	
Total	101	87	188

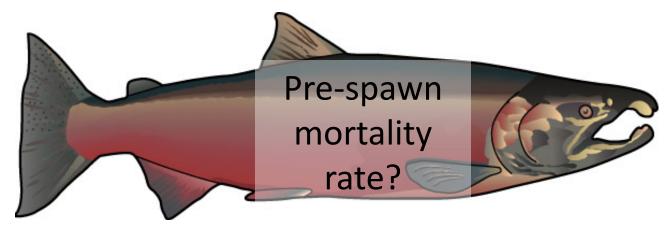
Assumptions:

- Using the area under the curve (AUC) and assuming each fish was in the creek for 3 days corrects for probable double-counting of fish. Adding the number of carcasses may account for fish floating into the survey reaches from upstream.
- Salmon spend several days in the stream.

The estimated population is the "escapement estimate" – the actual number of fish that are likely to have escaped and survived to spawn.

Spawning Population





What percent of coho died before spawning in Miller and Walker Creeks in 2016?

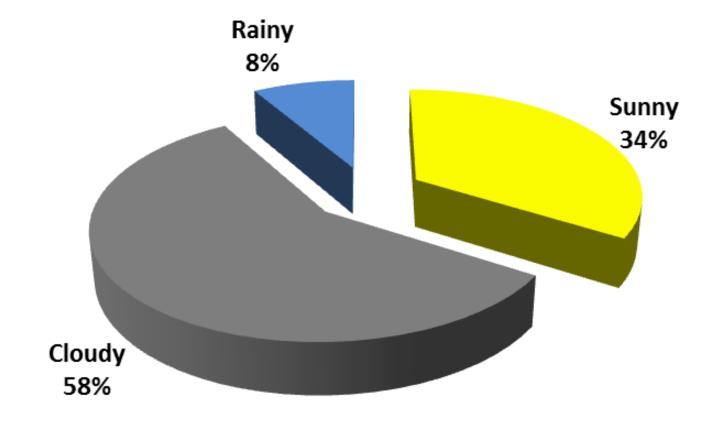
The "pre-spawn mortality" rate is the percent of returning adult female coho that died before spawning — as indicated by a dead fish that had a belly full of eggs and no sign of damage by a predator.

Whoever guesses closest will win something "fishy"!

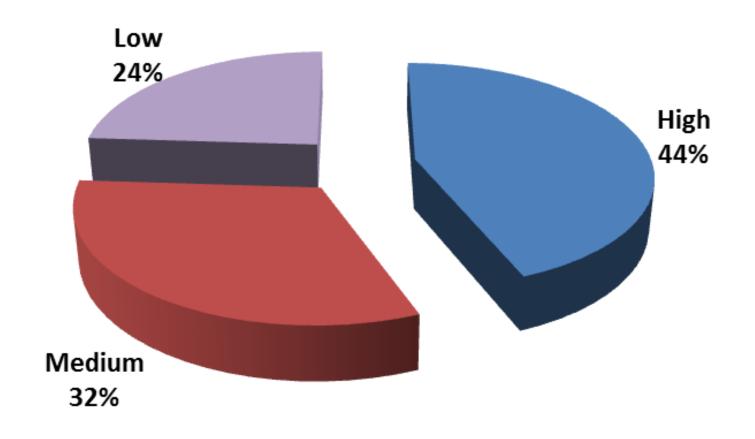
Complete the slip and place in the orange bucket.

CSI Weather

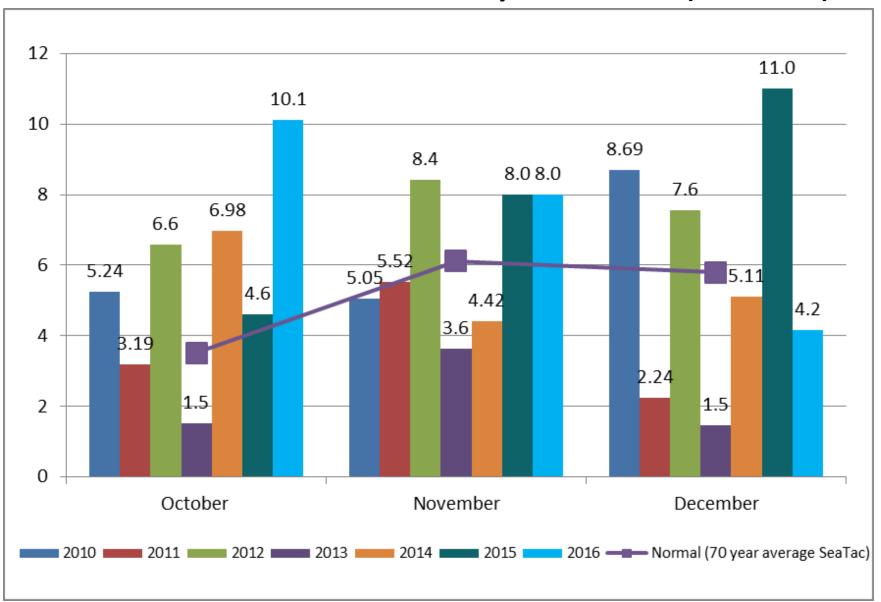
- Average survey time = 2 hours, 55 minutes
- Weather conditions (59 survey days):



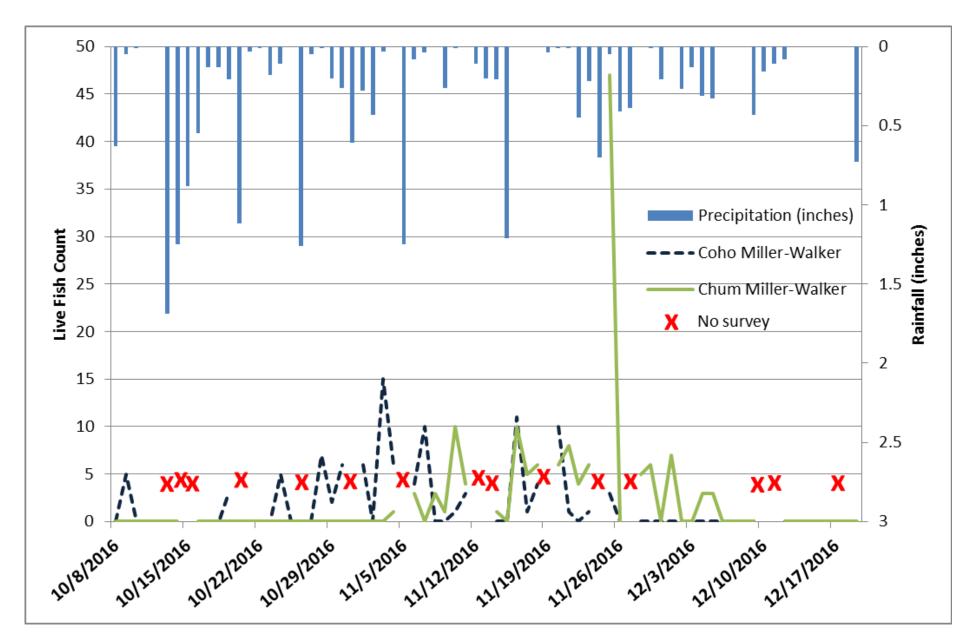
Tide Level at Beach



CSI Weather – Monthly Rainfall (inches)



Rainfall and live fish - 2016

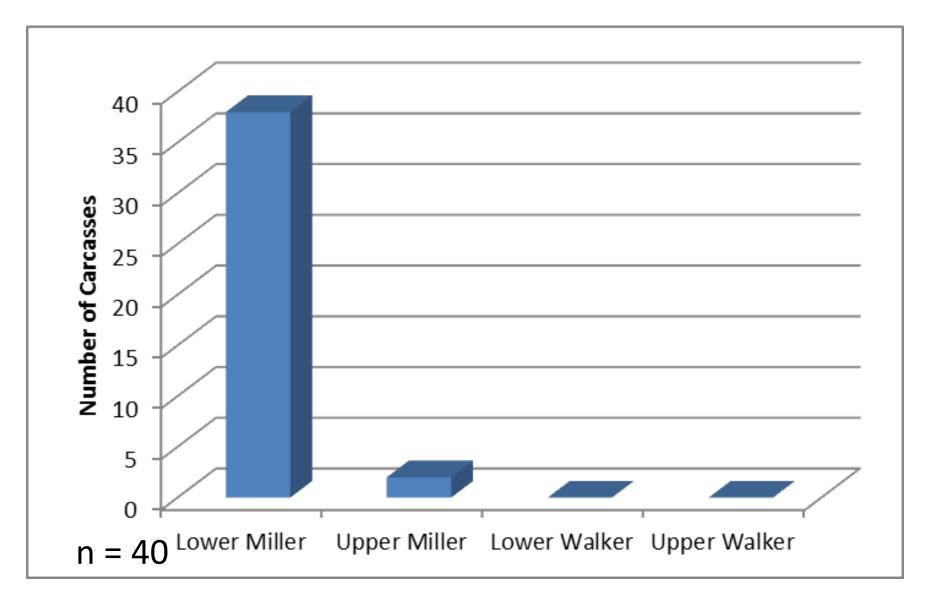


Carcasses Summary

Species	Coho	Chum	Unidentified Adults
Miller Creek	54	43	10
Walker Creek	14	0	1
Total	68	43	11

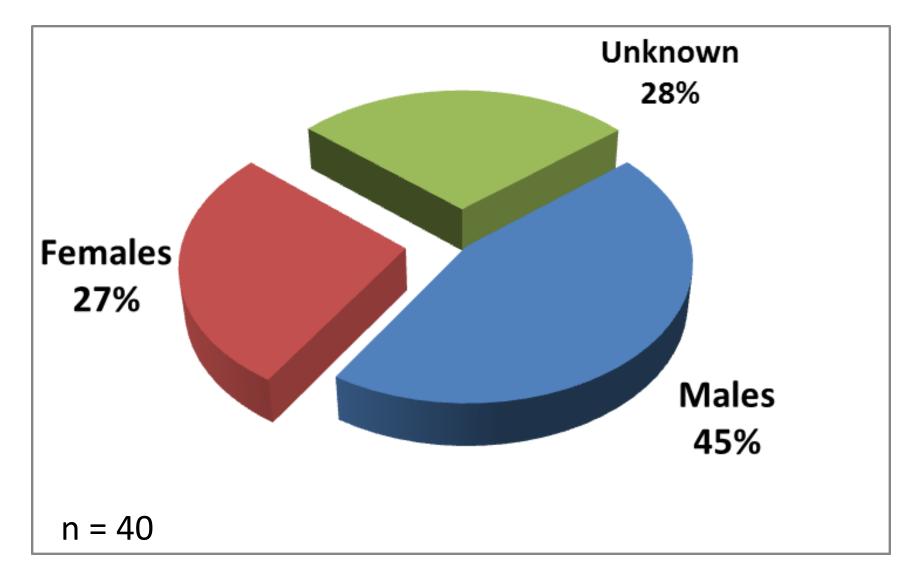


Chum Carcasses: Location





Chum Carcasses: Sex

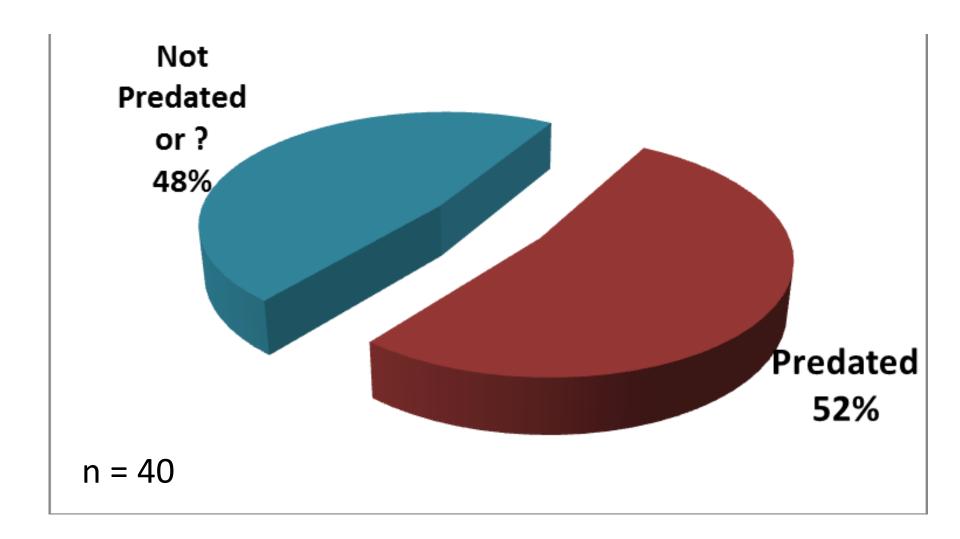


Predation by wildlife

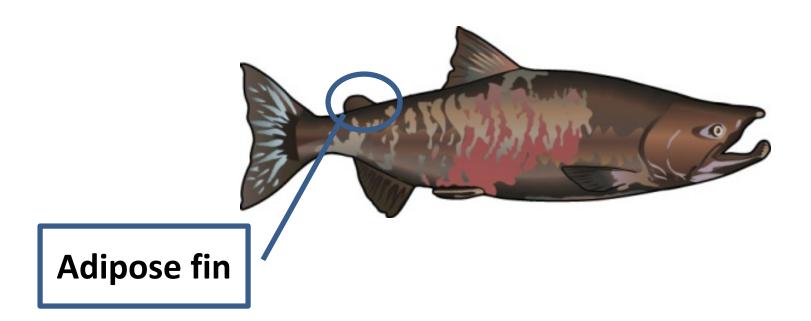




Chum Carcasses: Predation

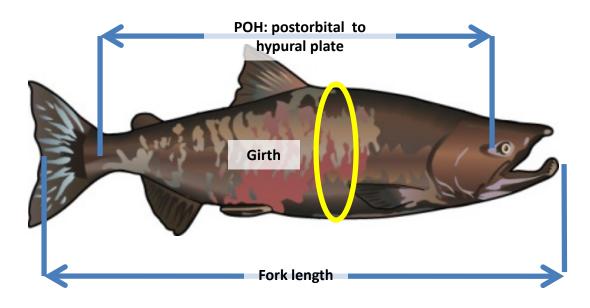


Chum: Hatchery Origin Unknown

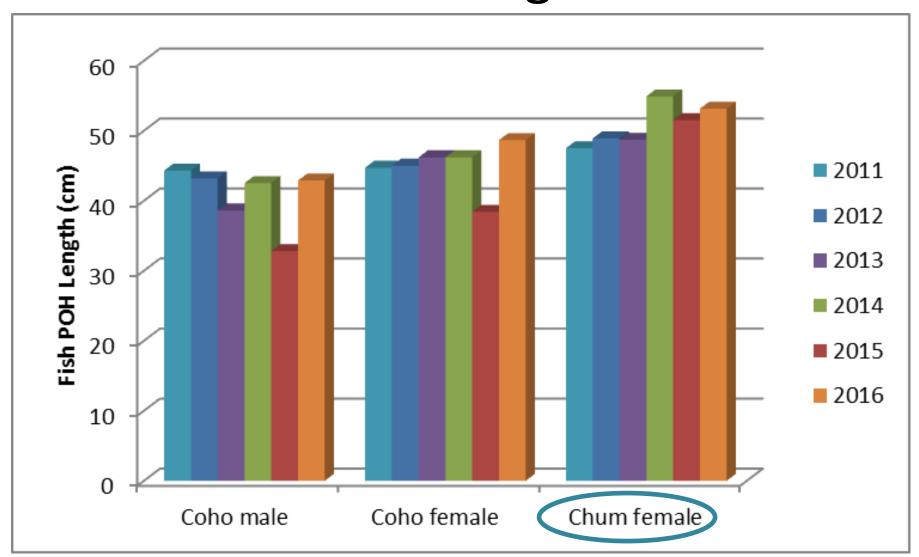


Chum Carcasses: Size

	Fork length	POH	Girth
	(cm)	(cm)	(cm)
Male average	67.6	52.5	33.1
Female average	66.7	53.1	29.3



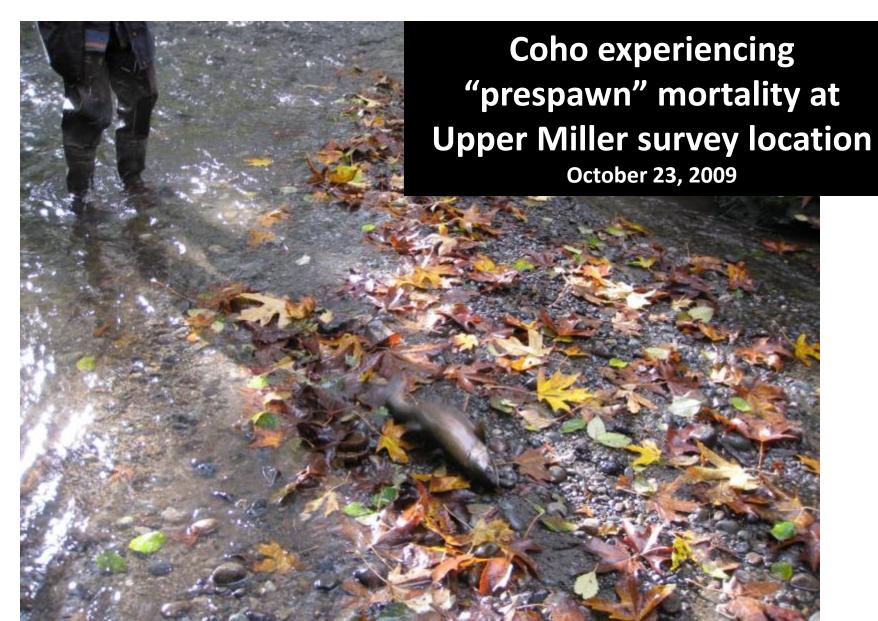
Fish Length



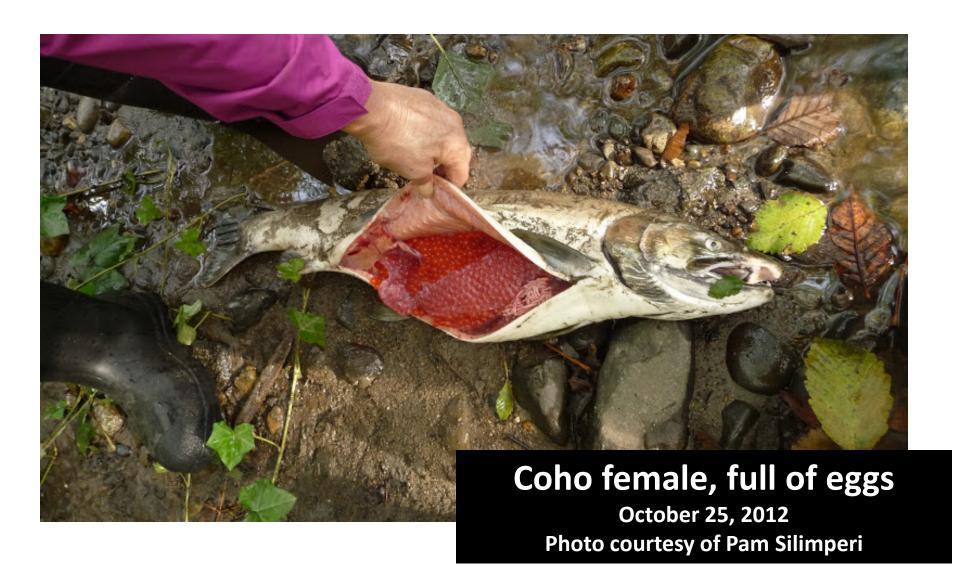
Coho Prespawn Mortality Behavior

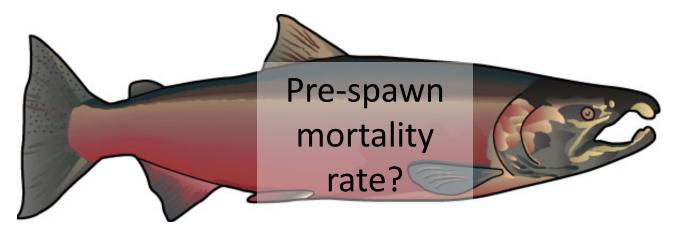


Coho Prespawn Mortality



Prespawn Mortality (PSM)





What percent of coho died before spawning in Miller and Walker Creeks in 2016?

The answer is some percentage between 0 and 100%.

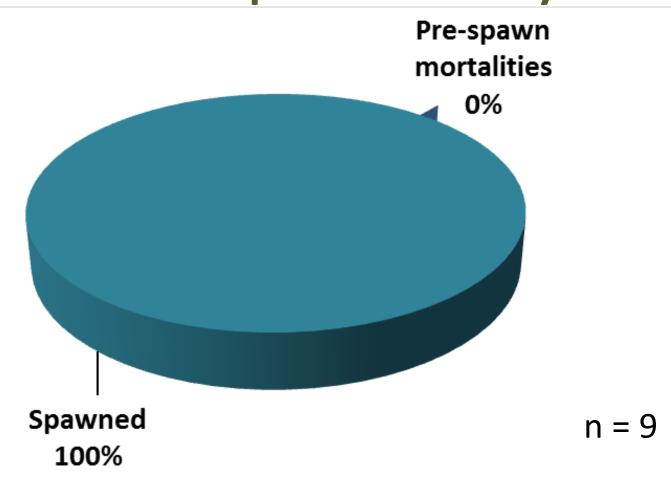
The "pre-spawn mortality" rate is the percent of returning adult female coho that died before spawning — as indicated by a dead fish that had a belly full of eggs and no sign of damage by a predator.

Whoever guesses closest will win something "fishy"! Complete the slip and place in the orange bucket.



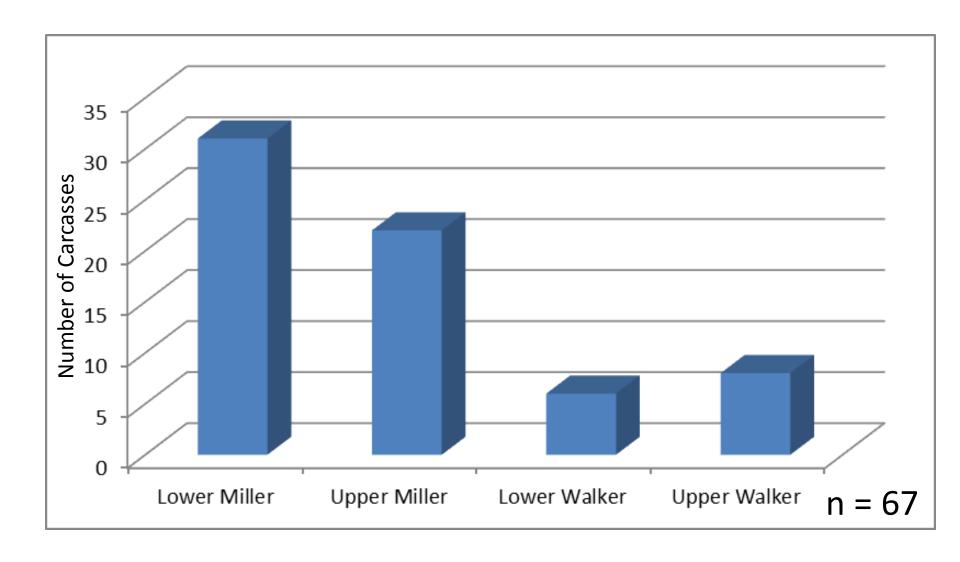
Chum: Success in Spawning

Miller and Walker Creeks – 0 of 9 females = 0% Pre-spawn Mortality



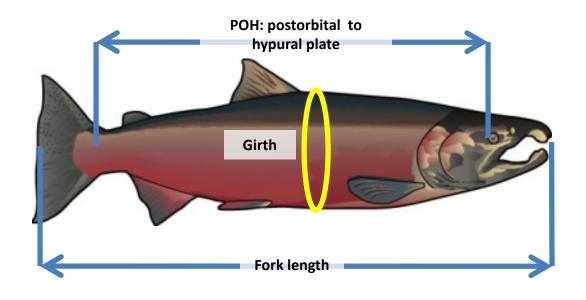


Coho Carcasses: Location

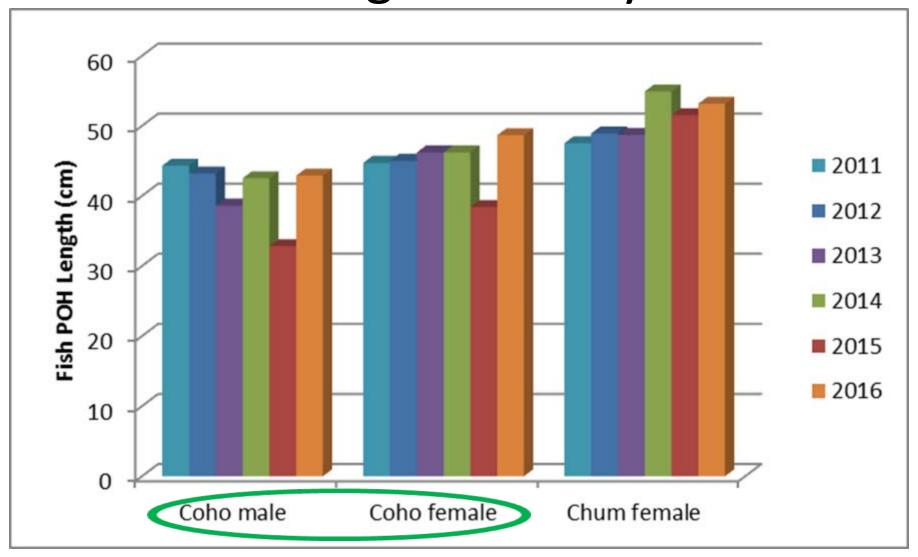


Coho Carcasses: Size

	Fork length	POH	Girth
	(cm)	(cm)	(cm)
Male average	54.9	42.9	27.9
Female average	61.3	48.7	31.6

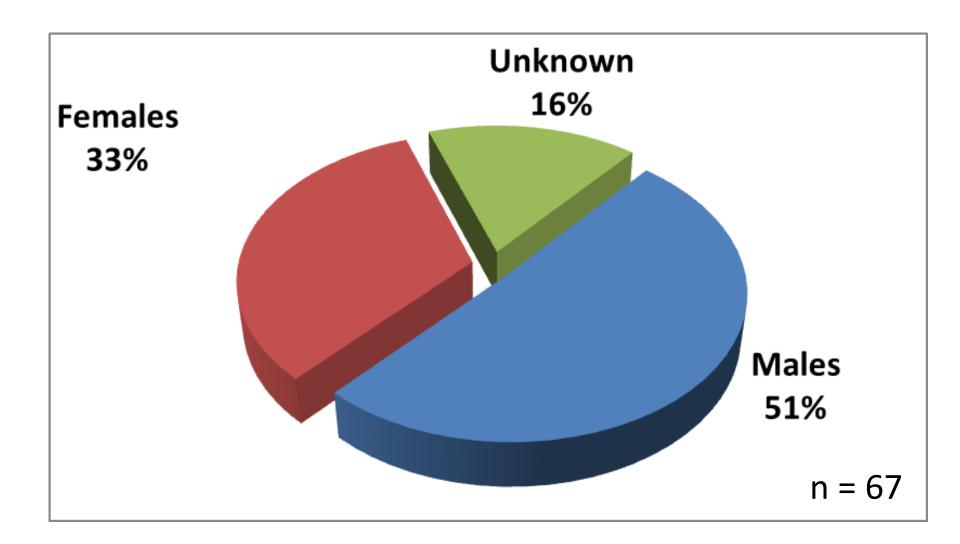


Fish Length over 6 years



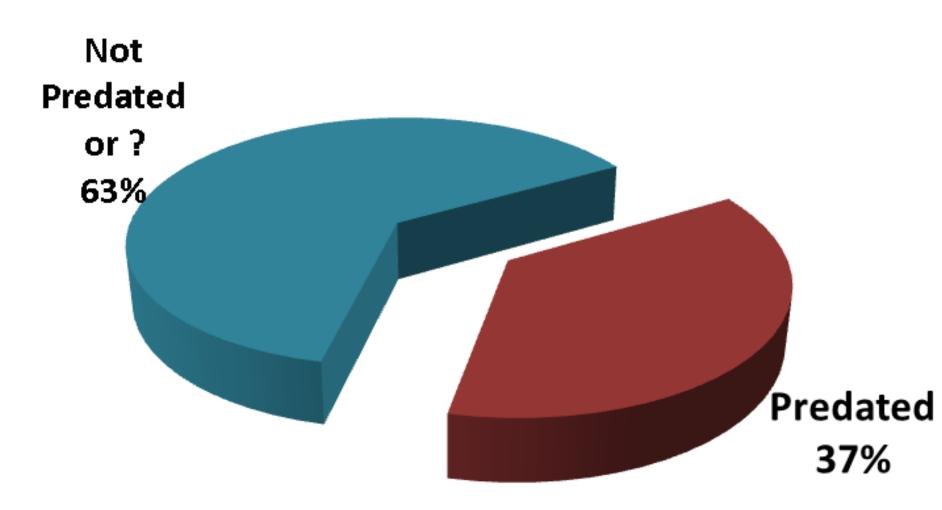


Coho Carcasses: Sex





Coho Carcasses: Predation

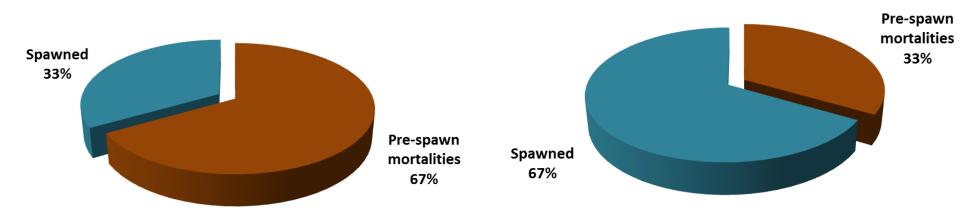




Coho: Success in Spawning

Miller Creek 67% PSM

Walker Creek 33% PSM



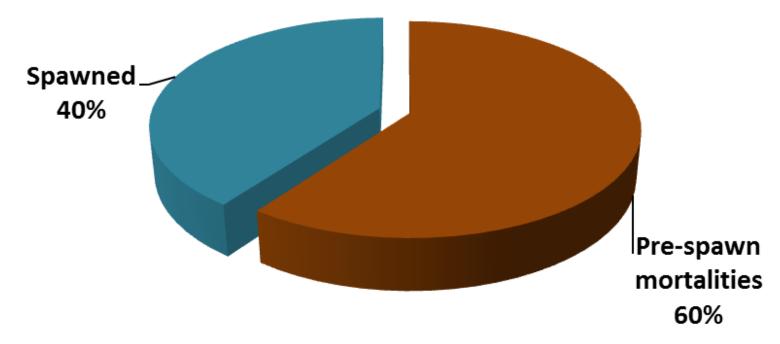
12 females 3 females

Overall coho pre-spawn mortality:



Coho: Success in Spawning

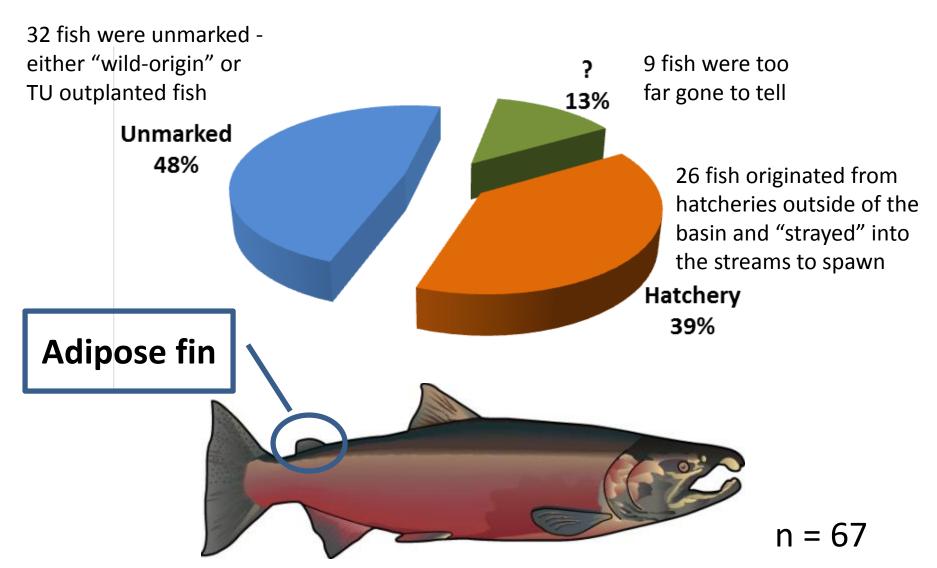
Miller and Walker Creeks – 9/15 females = 60% Pre-spawn Mortality



N = 15

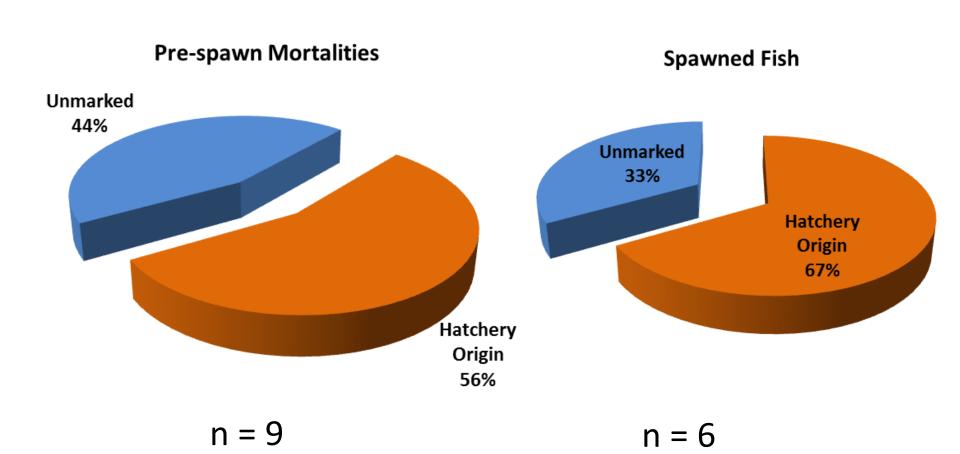


Coho: Hatchery Origin





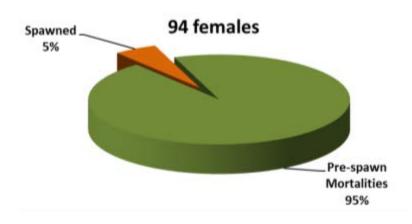
Coho: Success in Spawning and Origin



Coho: Spawning Success in 2012: Miller/Walker and Nearby

Miller Creek- 95% PSM

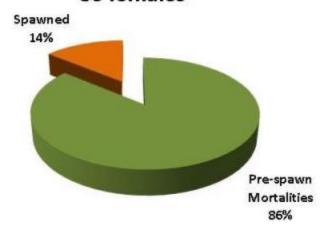
Walker Creek – 57% PSM



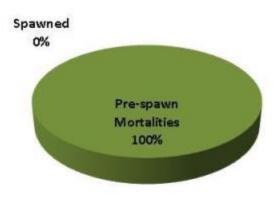
Spawned 43%

Pre-spawn Mortalities 57%

Longfellow Creek – 86% PSM 86 females

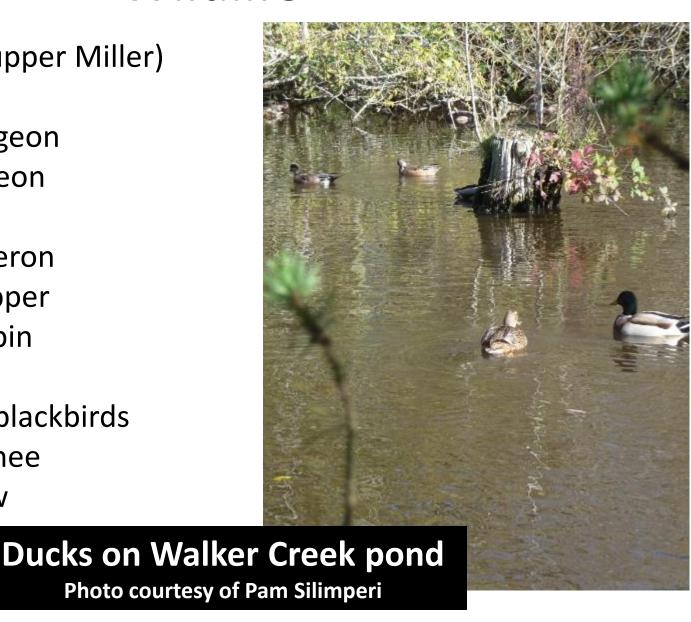


Des Moines – 100% PSM 34 females



Wildlife

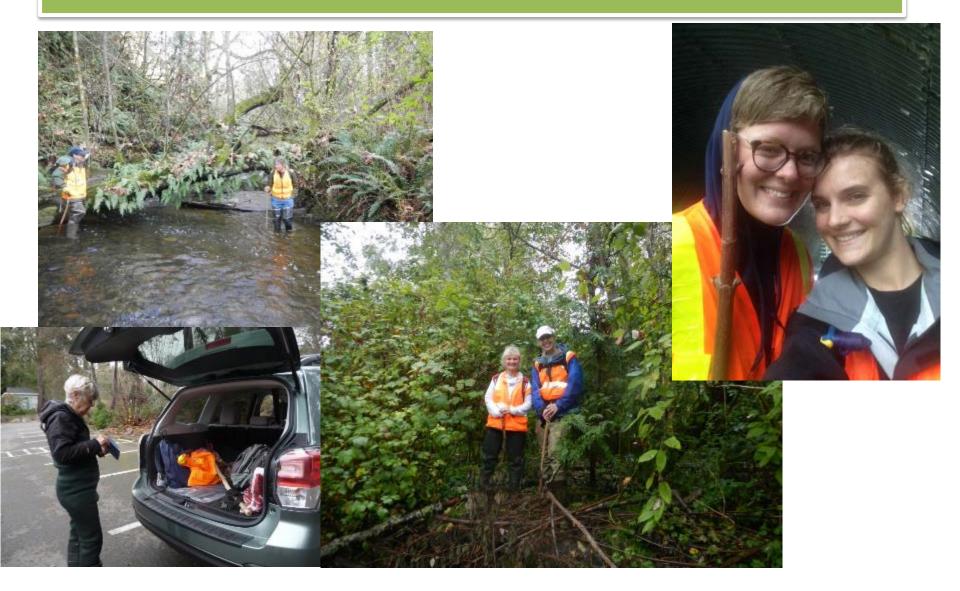
- River otter (upper Miller)
- Mallards
- American wigeon
- Eurasian wigeon
- Bufflehead
- Great blue heron
- American dipper
- American robin
- kinglet
- Red-winged blackbirds
- Spotted towhee
- Song sparrow
- Gulls
- Crows







Thank You Volunteers!



Citizen Science Power

- 34 volunteer surveyors
- 141 volunteer days
- 165.5 hours of surveys
- Average survey: 2 hours, 54 minutes
- Most days surveyed:
 - Ed Nugent (12 days)
 - Tied for 2nd Place: Lee Moyer, Joy Neubauer, and Roger Neubauer (9 days)
 - Pam Silimperi (8 days)



Photo courtesy of Pamela Silimperi, 2015

4) Plans for 2017 CSI

Team Tuesday – Pam and Kay

Photo courtesy of Pamela Silimperi, 2016





Plans for 2017 CSI Survey Season

- Continue the excellent work of the last 7 years by surveying again at four locations in Normandy Park
- Maintain between 25 & 35 volunteers
- Training in early October, 2017

- Sign in with your email address to stay informed
- Tell your friends and family!

5) Stream and Salmon Health





How Urban Lands Affect Streams

Stream flow

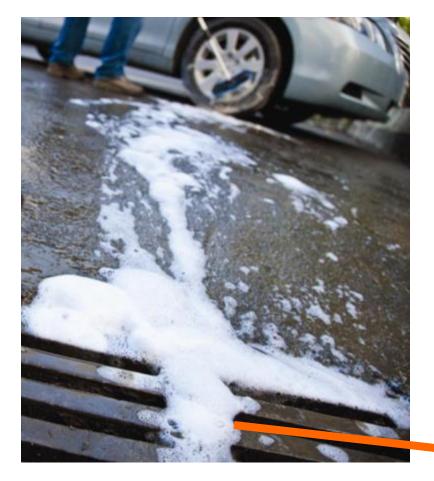
- Faster, higher flowing water more often
- Less and warmer water in summer

Water pollution

- Warmer, low dissolved oxygen, altered pH, more turbid
- More pollution bacteria, metals, pesticides, oil, salt, etc.

Physical habitat conditions

- Substrate: hardened, more silt/sand, less gravel
- Salmon nests in gravel are smothered
- Streamside vegetation: native, invasive, absent
- Reaches inaccessible to resident and anadromous fish

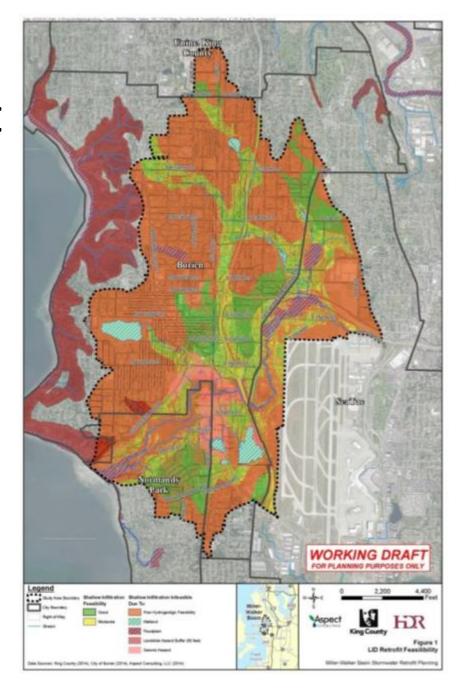


Stormwater is not treated



Miller-Walker Stormwater Retrofit Analysis

- Goal: identify where stormwater management will make the biggest difference and be successful
- Grant funded by Dept. of Ecology and supported by Miller-Walker basin partners
- Hydrologic and soil, geology, steep slope analysis of Miller-Walker basin for good locations
- 80 public sites identified and evaluated



Top 4 Projects:

- Concept design reports
- Won over \$1million in grants
 - Moshier Park and adjacent Moshier Community Art Center -Burien
 - 6th Ave SW from SW 146th
 St to SW 153rd St Burien
 - King County District Court
 6th Ave & SW 149th St. –
 King County/Burien
 partnership

MILLER-WALKER BASIN STORMWATER RETROFIT PROJECT



Proposed Concept



















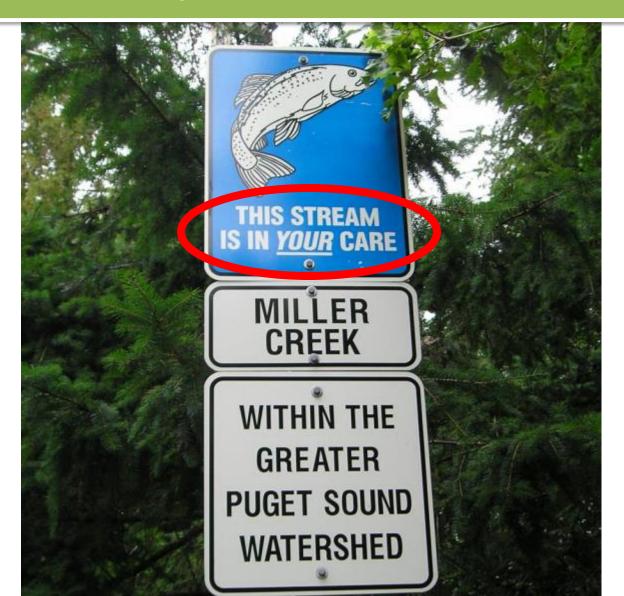








6) Our Role



The Truth about English Ivy

English ivy is a bully. In the plant world, English ivy is:

Aggressive

English ivy grows very quickly, about 6 feet a year. Vines on this invasive climber can growover 90 feet long. A greedy competitor for soil, sunlight, and water, English ivy will smother every understory plant in its path.



Pushy

Spreading quickly by seed, English ivy heeds no boundaries. Birds, such as the American Robin, snack on its seedy berries. The birds then distribute the seeds in their droppings wherever they fly, often miles away. In this way, Ivy on one property can spread to other yards and forests and to our public parks and green spaces.

Ruthless

English ivy can kill large trees by suffocating trunks and weighing down branches. By covering trees, ivy's dense growth creates a "sail effect" that topples trees in wind storms. Ivy can take over entire forests. Blanketing the landscape, out-of-control ivy creates an "ivy desert" a monoculture where no other plant can survive.



Unless we remove English ivy it will destroy our forests.

English ivy is unruly. In the human world, English ivy is:

Destructive

English ivy can topple large trees, weaken fences and masonry walls, and cause structural collapse with the bulk of its woody vines. Do not underestimate ivy: vines on mature plants can weigh up to 2,100 pounds with trunk-like stems nearly one foot thick!

Unhealthy

King County's pest problem is aided and abetted by English ivy. Rats and other vermin hide in the cover of English ivy and use its vines to climb onto roofs and into our homes.



Expensive

Cities in the Puget Sound area spent over \$11 million removing English ivy from our parks from 2005-2011 and have only made a small dent in the thousands of acres that are infested. Volunteers have spent over 400,000 hours pulling English ivy and re-planting our public forests. Homeowners can face expensive repairs to their fences and houses and for hazard tree removal, as well as the cost of ivy removal itself. English ivy has already cost us a lot.









SAVE A TREE — CREATE A SURVIVAL RING







If you find a tree "drowning" in ivy, do not attempt to yank the ivy out of the tree's branches—you might damage the tree. Instead, cut the vines at shoulder height and again at the base of the tree. Pull the vines away from the lower tree trunk. (Don't worry about the vines higher up on the tree once cut they will wither and die.) Then, pull up the vines and remove all ivy roots from around the tree trunk in a 6-foot radius, taking care not to damage the tree roots. Keep this drde ivy-free to create a survival ring for the tree.

- Rip it out. Everyone should take a stand against ivy and use other ground covers. There are many attractive alternatives to ivy. For plant suggestions, visit www.ivyout.org/ivyalt.htm.
- If you can't eliminate all by, remove all berryproducing branches, and keep it heavily pruned and away from trees. Please, don't let those by clippings escape. Always dispose of by properly in your green waste receptable.
- 2. Join a community event. We need to rescue thousands of acres of forested landsfrom ky, Join an ky-removal event at a park near you. Parks departments and local organizations are working in many places throughout the county and can use your help. Contact your local parks department or visit the volunteer information page at www.kingcounty.pow/weeds.
- 3. Support ivy-free nurseries. Despite its noxious weed status, English ivy is not on the state quarantine list and is still sold at many garden stores. However, some businesses have chosen to go ivy-free. Ask your favorite garden store if they carry ivy and make sure to thank them if they don't.



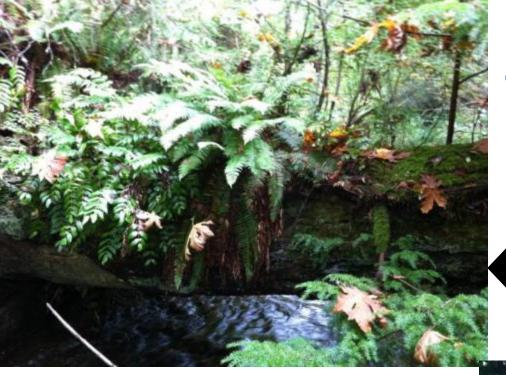
Before

Save your trees – remove the ivy

After

Trees ARE the view





Great

Leave down logs in the stream

Not so great

Leave down logs and branches for wildlife



Things You Can Do: Volunteer



Things You Can Do: Become a Habitat Steward

- We provide:
 - Training
 - Tools and gloves for volunteers
 - Assistance with planning
 - All plants, mulch
 - Event advertising

Upcoming volunteer events: 144th St. Trail & Miller Creek on March 11 and April 29, 2017



KCD's Landowner Incentive Program





Photo courtesy of Pamela Silimperi, 2015

Things You Can Do: Volunteer

Volunteer for the Community
Salmon
Investigation
for 2017!

Volunteer Tracey with a predated chum
Fall 2015

Photo courtesy of Pamela Silimperi



Shared Funding for Stewardship

Thank you Miller-Walker basin partners, who support King County basin stewardship:





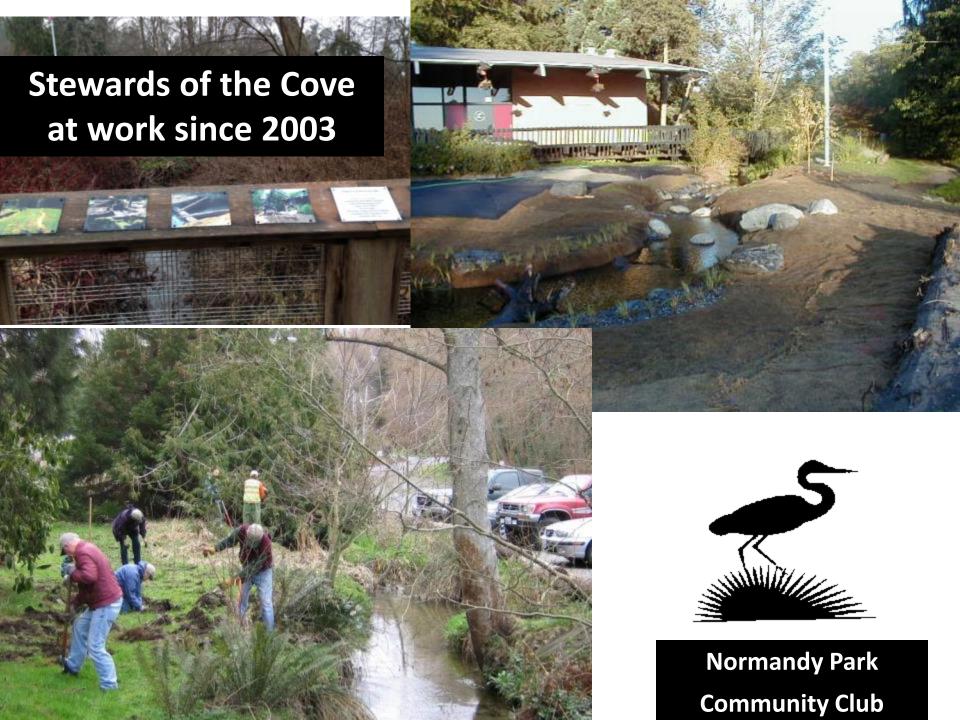












Puget Sound StartsHere



Clean up runoff:

Attend workshops to learn to fix oil leaks in your car

- Check for leaks
- Contain leaks until you can get the car fixed





www.fixcarleaks.org







Clean up runoff:



- Wash your car at a carwash (avoids wasting up to 80 gallons!) - or -
- On the lawn rather than in the street (keeps soap and oil out of the storm sewer and out of the creek)



Clean up runoff: pick up after your pet







Volunteer to mark storm drains



Coho with Coded Wire Tags: 0

- Coho from Elliot Bay
 - Muckleshoot Indian Tribes Net Pen
- From Keta Creek Hatchery (Green River) in 2010
- Released in 2012 into Puget Sound
- 3 females: 2 spawned, 1 PSM
- Miller Creek

