

# MID-COLUMBIA – MARION DRAIN FALL CHINOOK

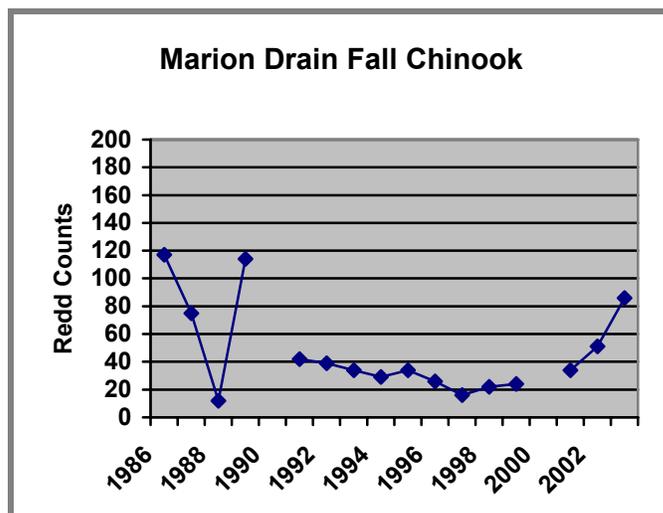
## STOCK STATUS

<b>1992 STATUS</b> Healthy	<b>2002 STATUS</b> Healthy
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## STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: *Good*

YEAR	REDD COUNTS
1986	117
1987	75
1988	12
1989	114
1990	No data
1991	42
1992	39
1993	34
1994	29
1995	34
1996	26
1997	16
1998	22
1999	24
2000	No data
2001	34
2002	51
2003	86



Data are redd counts made throughout the Marion Drain.

Redd counts have not changed in any consistent way since the 1992 assessment, when stock status was rated Healthy. Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002.

## STOCK DEFINITION

**SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION:** Spawning takes place in throughout the Marion Drain.

**SPAWNING TIMING:** Spawning generally begins on October 15 when irrigation pumps are turned off, allowing surplus water to flow back into the Yakima River via the Marion Drain, and peaks in early November.

**GENETIC ANALYSIS:** Allozyme analysis has shown Marion Drain fall Chinook are genetically distinct from other Columbia basin fall Chinook stocks (WDF and WDW 1993). They most similar to Snake River and Deschutes (Oregon) fall Chinook (Marshall et al.1995).

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## **STOCK ORIGIN**

This is a stock of **unknown** origin with **wild** production. Some have speculated that Marion Drain fall Chinook are the remnants of a native stock that was displaced from the lower mainstem Yakima River following extensive agricultural development. Their similarity to Snake River and Deschutes fall Chinook is cited as evidence for a mid-Columbia origin. Klickitat tule fall Chinook were released into Marion Drain once in 1976, however Marion Drain fish are bright fall Chinook and do not resemble any tule fall Chinook stock. No other hatchery supplementation has occurred.