

STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA - MORSE CREEK COHO

STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS
Depressed

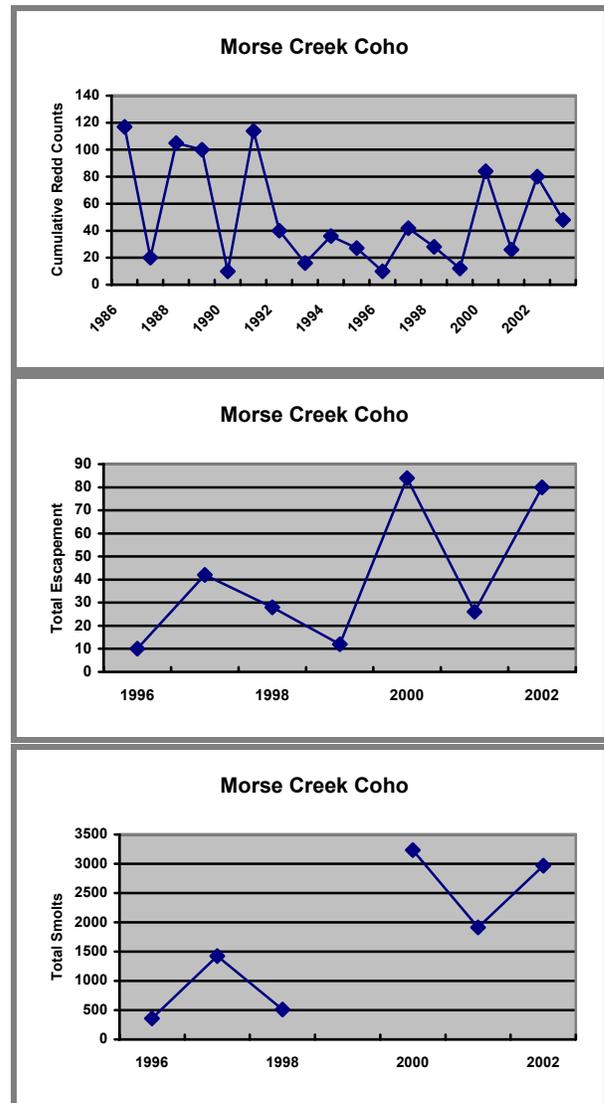
2002 STATUS
Depressed

STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK

STATUS: Good

BROOD YEAR	REDD COUNTS	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT	TOTAL SMOLTS
1986	117		
1987	20		
1988	105		
1989	100		
1990	10		
1991	114		
1992	40		
1993	16		
1994	36		
1995	27		
1996	10		358
1997	42		1,426
1998	28	488	511
1999	12	101	No data
2000	84	608	3,235
2001	26	352	1,915
2002	80	676	2,966
2003	48	311	Not available



Data are 1) cumulative redd counts in index areas in McDonald Creek (RM 1.7 to 4.4) and Siebert Creek (RM 0.9 to 4.2); and 2) total escapements based on redd counts using a stratified random sampling method in Morse Creek and its tributary Mining Creek plus Peabody, Valley, Tumwater, McDonald, Siebert, Dry, Lees, Ennis, and White creeks (Crain 1999); and 3) smolt counts based on smolt trapping data in Siebert Creek beginning with the 1996 brood year.

Recent redd counts are low, and smolt production has also been poor in the sampled tributaries. A **Depressed** stock status rating is appropriate again in 2002 because of **chronically low** redd counts.

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STOCK DEFINITION

Morse Creek coho were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution and on their probable common hatchery influence (mainly Dungeness Hatchery).

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Most spawning takes place in McDonald, Siebert, Morse, Ennis, Valley and Tumwater creeks.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from November to early January.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: No genetic analysis has been done on Morse Creek coho.

STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **mixed** stock with **wild** production. Streams in this area have been heavily planted with non-native coho. Hatchery yearlings were periodically released between 1952 and 1981, with the most consistent plants being made in Morse, McDonald and Siebert creeks using Dungeness, Soos Creek (Green River), Toutle and Minter Creek (south Puget Sound) hatchery stocks. Extended-reared coho, from a net pen program begun in 1981 in the Port Angeles harbor, may also contribute to spawning in Morse, McDonald and Siebert creeks. This stock is likely a mixture of the native stock and the introduced non-native stocks.