

QUILLAYUTE – SOL DUC WINTER STEELHEAD

STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS

Healthy

2002 STATUS

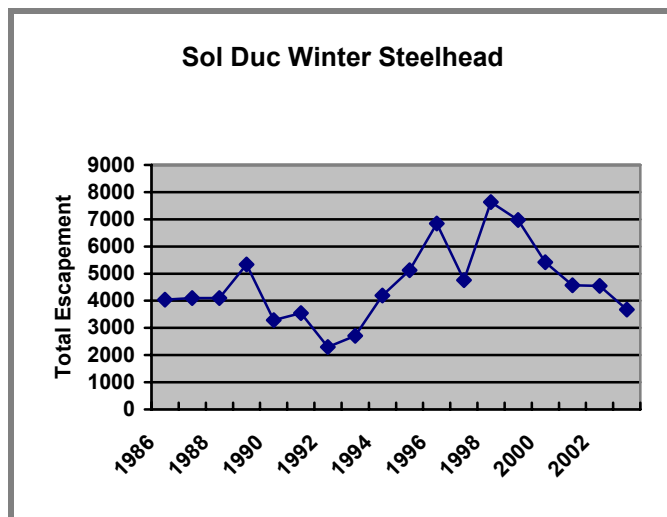
Healthy

Winter steelhead spawner escapement has been monitored for the Quillayute River system, which includes the Sol Duc, Quillayute/Bogachiel, Calawah and Dickey steelhead stocks since 1978. In 1985, WDFW and the Quileute Tribe agreed to a wild steelhead spawner escapement goal of 5,900 for the entire Quillayute River system.

STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Excellent

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	4,046
1987	4,105
1988	4,099
1989	5,333
1990	3,289
1991	3,551
1992	2,295
1993	2,711
1994	4,191
1995	5,124
1996	6,845
1997	4,764
1998	7,634
1999	6,973
2000	5,416
2001	4,575
2002	4,546
2003	3,673



Data are total escapement estimates based upon redd counts in index reaches and supplemental survey observations. Index areas surveyed include the mainstem Sol Duc River (RM 18.6 to 22.8, RM 41.1 to 43.0 and RM 61.1 to 64.7) and Lake, Beaver, Bear, Camp and Goodman creeks as well as the South Fork Sol Duc River. Supplemental survey areas include Tassel, Gunderson, Bockman, Shuwah, Redoubt, South Fork Bear and Kugel creeks as well as the North Fork Sol Duc River. Due to the large area of the Quillayute system used by spawning winter steelhead, only a limited portion can be surveyed on a weekly or bi-weekly schedule. To account for redd production in the mainstem used by winter steelhead, four to six helicopter surveys are conducted to count visible redds during the season.

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The entire escapement for the Quillayute system since 1978 averaged 10,205, of which 42% spawned in the Sol Duc watershed. Since 1992, winter steelhead escapements in the Sol Duc River have ranged from 2,295 to 7,634 and averaged 5,053. During the past five seasons the Sol Duc River and Quillayute system escapements have averaged 5,872 and 14,251, respectively. Therefore, the Sol Duc winter steelhead stock is again rated **Healthy**.

STOCK DEFINITION

Sol Duc winter steelhead were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Spawning takes place in the mainstem Sol Duc River from the mouth to RM 64.5, located downstream of the Sol Duc Falls in Olympic National Park. Spawning also occurs in tributaries such as Shuwah, Lake, Beaver, Bear, Camp, Goodman, Tassel, Gunderson, Bockman, Redoubt, South Fork Bear, Kugel and Alckee creeks. Spawning also can occur in unnamed tributaries 20.0330 and 20.0335 and in the north and south forks of the Sol Duc River.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from mid-March to June.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown this stock to be relatively similar to all other northern coastal steelhead stocks examined (Reisenbichler and Phelps, 1989). Phelps et al. (1997) found that Sol Duc juvenile steelhead sampled in 1994 had close genetic relationships with other Quillayute Basin stocks. Quillayute stocks are genetically distinct compared to those in Queets, Hoh, Quinault (other North Coast basins), based on the cluster analyses (Fig. 1-A for example) shown in Phelps et al. 1997.

STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **native** stock with **wild** production.