

## **ROCKY REACH CREEL SURVEY SUMMARY, 1999**

Duke Engineering & Services, Inc. (DE&S) initiated surveys in 1999 as part of baseline studies being conducted for the relicensing of the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2145). DE&S conducted surveys from August through early October; surveys will begin again in mid-April and continue through the end of July, 2000. A summary of the 1999 results follows.

### Summary of Survey Statistics

For survey purposes, Rocky Reach reservoir was stratified into the following areas:

- Rocky Reach 1: From Rocky Reach Dam upstream to the confluence of the Entiat River
- Rocky Reach 2: From the confluence of the Entiat River upstream to the confluence of the Chelan River
- Rocky Reach 3: From the confluence of the Chelan River upstream to Wells Dam.
- Beebe Bridge Park
- Chelan Falls Park
- Daroga Park
- Entiat Parks
- Lincoln Rock State Park
- Orondo Park

Table summarizes the number of times each of these areas was surveyed by the creel survey crews. Surveys were conducted on 18 different days from August 5 through October 3. A total of 26 interviews were conducted with 45 anglers.

### Fish Catch and Harvest

Table 2 summarizes the number of fish released and retained in Rocky Reach Reservoir during creel surveys in 1999. Of the 48 fish caught, over 70% were walleye. Of the remaining 13 fish, 1 was a smallmouth bass and the other 12 were northern pikeminnow.

### Fishing Preference

Of the anglers interviewed, nearly half were fishing for walleye, while about 30% showed no preference. The only other targeted species were smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and northern pikeminnow. Table 3 summarizes angler preferences.

### Walleye Lengths and Weights

Scale samples and lengths and weights were taken from 8 walleye during the creel surveys in 1999. Table 4 summarizes length and weight statistics for 1999.

Survey Schedule for 2000

Creel surveys will commence in mid-April, 2000 and continue until the end of July. Weekends, weekdays, and holidays will be sampled during this period.

| Area                                  | Days     | Number     |         |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|
|                                       | Surveyed | Interviews | Anglers |
| Beebe Bridge Park                     | 10       | 0          | 0       |
| Chelan Falls Park                     | 9        | 0          | 0       |
| Daroga Park                           | 13       | 4          | 8       |
| Entiat Parks                          | 11       | 0          | 0       |
| Lincoln Rock Park                     | 10       | 2          | 2       |
| Orondo Park                           | 13       | 3          | 3       |
| Rocky Reach 1: RR Dam to Entiat R.    | 9        | 0          | 0       |
| Rocky Reach 2: Entiat R. to Chelan R. | 14       | 7          | 13      |
| Rocky Reach 3: Chelan R. to Wells Dam | 14       | 10         | 19      |
| Total                                 | 18       | 26         | 45      |

| Species      | Fish     |      | Total |
|--------------|----------|------|-------|
|              | Released | Kept |       |
| LM Bass      | 0        | 0    | 0     |
| SM Bass      | 1        | 0    | 1     |
| Sturgeon     | 0        | 0    | 0     |
| Walleye      | 19       | 16   | 35    |
| Whitefish    | 0        | 0    | 0     |
| Yellow Perch | 0        | 0    | 0     |
| Burbot       | 0        | 0    | 0     |
| Catfish      | 0        | 0    | 0     |
| Other        | 1        | 11   | 12    |
| Total        | 21       | 27   | 48    |

| Species       | Number | Percentage |
|---------------|--------|------------|
| LM Bass       | 2      | 7.4%       |
| SM Bass       | 2      | 7.4%       |
| Sturgeon      | 0      | 0.0%       |
| Walleye       | 12     | 44.4%      |
| Whitefish     | 1      | 3.7%       |
| Yellow Perch  | 0      | 0.0%       |
| Burbot        | 0      | 0.0%       |
| Catfish       | 0      | 0.0%       |
| Other         | 2      | 7.4%       |
| No Preference | 8      | 29.6%      |
| Total         | 27     | 100.0%     |

| <b>Table 4. Length/weight statistics for walleye, Rocky Reach creel surveys, 1999.</b> |       |
|--|-------|
| Minimum length, walleye (mm)   | 406   |
| Maximum length, walleye (mm)   | 610   |
| Mean length, walleye (mm)  | 501   |
| Minimum weight, walleye (g)  | 914   |
| Maximum weight, walleye (g)  | 2,620 |
| Mean weight, walleye (g)   | 1,630 |
| Number of walleye measured/weighed   | 8     |
| Scale samples taken  | 8     |