

United Outdoorsmen Inc.  
Feather River Early Run Salmon Management Proposal

A review of the early run Chinook salmon abundance provided by the Feather River Hatchery indicates that over 10,000 early run Chinook salmon entered the hatchery holding tanks and were tagged then released during the months of May and June of 2013. It is estimated that the 10,000 salmon that entered the hatchery represented about 20% to 30% of the early run fish arriving in the upper river. The hatchery used only 1,400 of the hatchery fish for spawning purposes leaving an excess of 8,600 hatchery salmon plus the 70% to 80% in the river that did not enter the hatchery. These salmon served no useful purpose. The early spring run fish and the early fall run salmon were killed when the ladder reopened in September. We feel that this practice is a waste of a valuable resource that it could be put to a much better use. In view of this waste of a valuable resource, we propose the following management program for Early Run Chinook on the Feather River:

An Early Run season to open on Saturday May 3, 2014 with a possession limit of one(1) fish per angler per day. This season to extent to the opening of the summer/fall run season when the fall run regulations would then take affect.

Instead of wasting this valuable resource, this proposal would generate over one million dollars in revenue for for Sutter County and fishing related businesses and, provide recreational opportunities for hundreds outdoor enthusiasts. This proposal would in no way impact the hatchery spawning operation nor affect the early run reproduction of Chinook salmon

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