

Craigflower Cr.

Deadmans Creek) salmon count records.

946 to 1990. Esquimalt Angler's records 1991 forward

YEAR	Coho M	Coho F	Chum	Steelhead	Cuthroat	AUTHOR	NOTES	Total Coho
1946	200	200	400			C.G. Barrie	Nov. 3, 1946 approx 3-500 Coho and 300-500 chum entering channel.	400
1947	350	350	200	25		C.G. Barrie	Nov. 22 est. 500 to 1000 Coho; 300 to 500 chum; 1 to 50 steelhead in channel.	700
1948	200	200				C.G. Barrie	Stream inspection dates: Oct. 22; Nov. 19; Dec. 17 and Jan. 29. Run start Nov. 17; peak Dec 13; end Jan. 29. Estimated 300 to 500 in channel. Sex ratio: 50% male 50% female.	400
1949	100	100				C.G. Barrie	Stream Inspection dates: Nov. 8 and Feb. 1. Run start Dec. 1. Peak Dec. 15. End Dec. 30. Estimated 100 to 300 Coho on grounds Sex ratio 50% male 50% female.	200
1950	100	100				C.G. Barrie	Stream inspection dates: Nov. 24, 1950 and Dec.. 15, 1950. Run start Nov. 10, peak Dec. 9, end Dec 30. Estimated 100 to 300 Coho on grounds. Sex ration 50% male 50% female. Water levels normal. Predators: mergansers and gulls.	200
1951	350	350				A.J. Touchings	Stream inspection dates: Nov. 29, 1951. Run start Nov 20, peak Dec. 10, end Dec. 20. Estimated 500 to 1000 Coho on grounds.	700
1952	385	315		25		A.J. Touchings	Stream Inspection dates: Nov.21 and Dec. 17, 1952. Run start Dec. 12, peak Dec. 17. end Dec 24. Estimated 500 to 1000 Coho and 1 to 50 steelhead on grounds. Sex ration 50% male, 45% female, 5% jacks. Water level normal. Spawning beds in upper reaches evenly distributed. Predators; mergansers. Due to low water conditions at time of first inspection no salmon could ascend the stream to the spawning beds, but about three weeks later heavy rains increased flows so the salmon could ascend in good numbers. At time of last inspection spawning beds were in ideal conditions (Dec. 17th).	700
1953	350	350				A.J. Touchings	Stream Inspection date: Jan. 6, 1954. Run start Dec. 3, peak Dec. 19, end Dec. 23. Estimated 500 - 1000 Coho; 1 - 100 steelhead.	700

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1954	35	35	25	A.J. Touchings	Stream inspection date: Dec. 9, Dec. 31, 1954. Run start Nov. 28, peak Dec. 15, end Dec. 30. Estimated 50 - 100 Coho; 1 - 50 steelhead. Predators sighted Merganser ducks.	70
1955	14	11		A.J. Touchings	Start run Dec. 1, peak Dec. ?, end Dec. 30. Steelhead run start Dec. to March. Estimated Coho 25.	25
1956	350	350	25	A.J. Touchings	Inspection dates Nov. 30, Dec. 18, 1956. Run start Nov. 25, peak Dec. 8, end Dec 20. Steelhead Nov. to March. Estimated fish on grounds; Coho 700; steelhead 25. Evidence 5% erosion/scouring due to recent high waters starting Dec. 8.	700
1957	38	37		G.T. McIndoe	Inspection dates Nov. 19, 24, Dec. 11, 15, 19. Run start Dec. 5, peak Dec. 20, end Dec 30. Fish on grounds Coho 75. Water level very low till second week in December. This stream is overgrown by willows etc. in some stretches and requires fairly high water to allow good passage for fish.	75
1958	?	?	25	G.T. McIndoe	Inspection dates: Oct. 23, Nov. 2, 8, 12, 16, 24, Dec. 11, 17. Coho run start Nov. 10, peak Dec 8, end Dec 30. Steelhead Nov. to April. Fish on grounds Coho ???. Steelhead 25. This stream is overgrown by willows and hardhack in spots and requires a light bulldozer to clear out the streambed where necessary.	0
1959	38	37	10	H. Burrow	Inspection dates: Frequently during period Nov. 1 to Jan. ? Coho run starts late Nov., peak Dec. 8, end Dec. 30. Steelhead Dec. to March. Fish on grounds: Coho 75, steelhead few reported. At the end of 1959, some logging debris was left in stream above spawning area by a small operator, this is to be removed as soon as weather permits the operator to get a 'cat' in.	75
1960	38	37		H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: Nov. 23, Dec. 23. Coho run starts Nov. 15, peak Nov. 30, end Dec 15. Steelhead possibly a small winter run. Estimated fish on grounds, Coho 75, steelhead not known. Flood conditions occurred on January 14 and 15, 1961.	75
1962	41	34		H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: Periodic throughout season. Coho run starts Nov. 15, peak Nov. 25, end Dec. 31. Estimated Coho on grounds 75.	75
1963	100	100		H. Burrow DFO	Not inspected. Reports from local residents. Run start Nov. 5, peak Dec. 10, end Dec. 31. Estimated fish on grounds, Coho 200.	200

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1964	100	100	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: November and December. Coho run starts Nov., peak Dec10, end Dec 10. Estimated fish on grounds 200.	200
1965	100	100	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: Nov. and Dec. Coho run starts Nov., peak Nov. end Dec. 9.	200
1966	200	200	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: December. Coho run starts Dec. 2, peak Dec. 15, end Jan. 1967. Estimated Coho on grounds 400.	400
1967	0	0	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: Nov. and Dec. Up to the end of December at no time this year was there any signs of Coho salmon in the stream or any evidence of any being in the stream. This stream wanders through farmland and populated areas. This is the first time as far back as our records go that no Coho have been observed in the stream. (see report for 1970)	0
1968	38	37	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: Nov. 18, Dec. 11. Coho arrived in stream Dec. 1. Spawn start Dec. 2; peak Dec. 12, end Dec. 31. Estimated Coho on grounds 75. Small windfall debris and small jams in stream but not impassable to salmon. Could be removed with very little effort.	75
1969	160	40	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates: Periodically during spawning period. Coho arrived in stream Dec. 10. Spawn start Dec. 12; peaks Dec. 24, ends Jan. 1970. Estimated Coho on grounds 200. 20% male, 20% female, 60% jacks. Note: The percentage of Jacks, Coho, in this river was unusually high this year and much higher than reported for dry previous years.	200
1970	375	375	H. Burrow DFO	Coho arrived in stream Dec. 14. Spawn start Dec. 14; peak Dec. 20, end Dec. 30. Estimated Coho on grounds 750. Water level very low all summer and to Dec. 10th. Although reported nil in 1967 a good run this year for this stream. It is likely the 1967 run arrived late and was not observed. Over a weeks work by two to three men to clear old forest debris in Dec. 1970 under Winter Works Program.	750
1971	12	12	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates during spawning period. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 10. Spawn start Nov. 10, peak Nov. 15, end Nov. 25. Estimated Coho on grounds 25.	24
1972	12	12	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates Dec. 6-8; Jan. 3, 1973. Coho arrived in stream Dec. 17. Spawn start Dec. 17; peak Jan. 3/73. Estimated Coho on grounds 25. Water levels very high in March and December.	24

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1973	24	23	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates Dec. 4; 19; 30th. Coho spawn start Dec. 4, peak Dec. 19, end Dec. 30th. Coho counted 47.	47
1974	38	37	H. Burrow DFO	Inspection dates November 25, Dec. 20; 21; 23; 29. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 18. Spawn start Nov. 22; peak Nov. 25, end Dec. 31. Coho counted on grounds 75. Several days were spent in the lower portions of the creek clearing out two small log jams which would have affected the upstream migration of salmon.	75
1975	13	12	DFO	Inspection dates Nov. 19, 27th. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 19. spawn start Nov. 24; peak Nov. 27, end Jan/76. Estimated Coho on grounds 25. Water level very low, summer and fall - High water during spawning period. Flows through farm and residential areas. High water conditions causing flooding during month of December made it very difficult to estimate number of spawning salmon in the stream.	25
1976	13	12	DFO	Inspection dates; weekly during spawning period. Coho arrived in stream Dec. 10. Spawn start Dec. 30, peak Dec. 30, end Jan. 15/77. Estimated Coho on grounds 25. Very low water level during migration period. Would not pass fish to spawning grounds. A total of one Coho counted by Dr. Langford at the weir. It is suspected that low water levels prevented access.	25
1977	28	34	DFO	Inspection dates: daily during migration. Coho arrived in stream Oct. 31. Spawn start Nov. 15; peak Nov. 22, end Dec. 15. Coho on grounds 62. 35% male; 55% female; 10% jacks. Heavy silting from excavation work done near headwaters. Most spawning grounds affected. Normal, high water levels due to rain later in October. Land cleared near headwaters early in November caused heavy silting over large extent of spawning grounds. Increased number of Coho returning in 1977 possibly maybe attributed to early Juan de Fuca closure.	62

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1978	129	79	DFO	<p>Inspection dates: Daily checks made at counting fence during migration period. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 25. Spawning starts Dec. 1, peak Dec. 7, end Jan. 10/79. Total Coho counted on grounds 208. 45% male. 38% female. 17% jacks. Approximately 40 Coho died unspawned due to toxic pollution in tidal portion of stream immediately below Helmeken Bridge (Nov. 20/78). These 40 were not included in total numbers on grounds. Further to land clearing in 1977, ditching and erosion caused more silting onto spawning grounds. Coho observed spawning in the area of silting. No fish observed above the above noted obstructing this fall. Silting mentioned above occurred approximately two miles upstream from the mouth as a result of land clearing on Herbert Plasterer's Creed Road</p>	208
1979	45	37	B.R. Gant	<p>Inspection dates: Regularly throughout spawn. Coho arrived in stream Dec. 7. Run duration undetermined. Total Coho counted 82. 45% male,, 45% female, 10% jacks. Development above Marler Drive on Plasterer property caused heavy silting downstream during flood conditions. Banks were overflowed and clay scoured. Fortunately spawn beds are above Plasterer's property, so silting would not be a problem, however high water might have caused some damage. Abnormal flood conditions present in mid December.</p>	82
1980	38	37		<p>Inspection dates: Regularly throughout spawn. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 7. Run start Nov. 15, peak Nov. 21, end Dec. 1. Total Coho counted 75. 45% male,, 50% female, 5% jacks. Flood conditions one month after spawn. Heavy silting throughout spawn area. Some erosion. Water level normal during spawn. Abnormally high during flood. River otters above 2nd falls killed many spawners. Strongly suggest they be eliminated. Land cleared three years ago adjacent to upper reaches of stream caused heavy siltation once again. Tremendous flood December 24th to 27th. Difficult to determine loss of spawn.</p>	75

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1981	15	10	DFO	<p>Inspection regularly throughout spawn. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 18. Spawn start Nov. 25, peak Dec 6, end Dec. 15. Total Coho on grounds 25. 40% male; 40% female; 20% jacks. Heavy silt lode coming off Creed Rd. property during December rains. High - heavy rains throughout migration period. Due to a small run most spawners were below the small falls. River otters in deep pools. Very poor spawning of Coho this year. Possibly due to two reasons. 1) Tremendous incidental catch of early Coho by Seine boats in the Straits of Juan de Fuca. 2) Excessive siltation in the fall and spring of 1978/79 may have contributed to the high mortality of the eggs and fry. Work crews from Wilkinson Rd. Centre cleared lower portion of the stream during late September.</p>	25
1982	50	40	DFO	<p>Inspection regularly throughout spawn season. Coho arrived Dec. 3; spawn started Dec. 10; peak Dec. 15; end Dec 20. Total Coho on grounds 90. 45% male; 45% female; 10% jacks. Late arrival due to low water. Fish held in Portage for 3-4 weeks. Fish observed near Pike Lake. Otters sighted in creek.</p>	90
1983	120	120	DFO	<p>Inspections throughout spawning season; Oct. 20 to Dec. 20. Coho arrived on grounds Nov. 4; spawn starts Nov. 12; peak Nov. 30; end Dec. 30. Total Coho on grounds 240. 40% male; 50% female; 10% jacks. Salmon distributed entire length of bed from Marler Drive to Pike Lake at Mann Avenue above Pike Lake. River otters in creek. Largest Coho return in many years. Locals living along stream commented most fish and furthest extent of spawning ever seen (see map). Recommended a trap and counting fence on stream for 1984.</p>	240
1984	45	45	DFO	<p>Four inspections Oct. 9 to Oct. 30. Coho arrived on grounds Nov. 2; spawn started Nov. 10; peak Nov. 15; end Dec 1. Total Coho on grounds 90.</p>	90
1985	60	60	DFO	<p>Inspection dates: Nov. 2; 5; 9; 15; 22; Dec. 2; 10; 20; Jan. 15; 22. Coho arrived on grounds Nov. 20; spawn start Dec 20; peak Jan. 1; end Jan. 20. Estimated total Coho on grounds 120. Abnormally low-freezing conditions end of November-Fish migration and egg development unusually late. Spawners extended to Prior Lake - Thetis Lake tributary but not to Pike Lake side. Otters at fish trap and at canyon. !3 female Coho taken at Fish Trap for Goldstream Hatchery producing 30,000 eggs. 15,250 fry released into creek and lakes from March 10 and June 11, 1985.</p>	120

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1986	100	100	DFO	<p>Inspection dates Nov. 22; Dec. 6. Coho arrived Nov. 8; Spawn start Nov. 8; peak Dec. 1; end Dec. 30. Estimated Coho on grounds 200. Spawning throughout system up to Prior Lake and Pike Lake. Low flows prohibited access until rains on Nov. 15, 1986. Falls at mouth impassable at low flows. Only obstruction is the falls at the mouth of the creek which are passable only during high flows. Counting fence was removed by a 'concerned' citizen when he noticed a number of fish below it were being blocked. Accurate count therefore not obtained. 12,631 Coho fry released into system during spring 1986 (all with P.H. ventrolatin)</p>	200
1987	23	47	Stefan Beckman DFO	<p>This is the year Esquimalt Anglers (Garry Caton) got heavily involved in managing the creek. Male to 17 lbs., Female to 15 lbs. Inspection dates Nov. 2;11;Dec. 4; 12. Coho arrived on grounds Nov. 3; Spawn start Nov. 8; peak Dec. 3; end Dec. 8. Estimated Coho on grounds 70. Water levels remained critically low until early December. Some seal predation in Portage Inlet. Otter predation as well. Portage Inlet Salmon Society succeeded in obtaining 48,382 Coho eggs from 32 female and 7 male Coho. Another 30 Coho were let go above fence. The fence was removed on Nov. 26/87.No fish had been released into Craigflower Creek in 1987.</p>	70
1988	7	8	Stefan Beckman DFO	<p>Inspection dates Oct. 18; 30; Nov. 6; 15; 22; Dec. 1. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 1; Spawn start Nov. 8; peak Dec. 3; end Dec. 20. Estimated total Coho on grounds 15. Water levels normal this year. The Portage Inlet Salmon Society operated a broomstick fence again this year. However, due to vandalism and broken broomsticks, Coho moved upstream without being counted or eggs collected. Escapement of 15 Coho was observed by Fishery Officers and volunteers. This is a very disappointing Coho return. Colquitz Ck. also had a poor return suggesting that these fish must have been impacted on in the ocean. In mid May/88, 8000 fry were released into Pike Lake, and 8000 Coho fry were released into Prior Lake.</p>	15

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1989	64	64	Stefan Beckman	<p>Inspection dates Oct. 18; Nov.. 9; 10; 11; 20; 25; Dec. 2; 14; 5; 19. Coho arrived in stream Oct.20; Spawn start Nov. 1; peak Dec. 1; end Dec. 25. Estimate Coho on grounds 128. Flood condition in earl December. Environmental Youth Corps enumerated stream and found 9 Coho between Thanet Rd. and Pike Lake, 1 Coho just south of Bukin Dr. E., and 2 Coho between Prior Lake and McKenzie Lake. The Portage Inlet Salmon Society operated a broomstick fence again this year. However, in early December, the broomstick fence was bypassed by floodwaters. The Environmental Youth Corps enumerated the stream thoroughly in mid-December to assess distribution and enumeration. The Goldstream Hatchery is incubating 45322 Coho eggs from this years brood stock. As no brood stock was obtained in 1988, no Coho fry were released into Craigflower Creek in 1989. (56 Coho to Godstream</p>	128
1990	88	87	Stefan Beckman DFO	<p>Inspection dates Oct. 4; 12; 15; 17; 20; 21; Nov. 22; 23. Coho arrived in stream Nov. 8. Spawn start Nov. 10. Estimated Coho on grounds 175. Talcott Rd. - stream bank erosion. The creek flooded three times: Nov. 8; 24 and Dec. 8/90. The trap was washed out each time. Fish sighted from Marler Drive, Highland Rd., 1st bridge to Prior Lake, Barker bridge and upstream to Pike Lake entrance. In October fish unable to migrate 100 feet past Talcott Rd. culvert due to low flows. Brood capture was attempted by the Portage Inlet Salmonid Society but was unsuccessful. A survey was done for an improved site on the creek and better fence design. No Coho fry were released into Craigflower Creek in 1990.</p>	175
1991	20	22	G Caton (Esq Anglers)	<p>Moved the trap site a 1/2 mile upstream to a wide area ,obtained \$8000 from DFO to build a trap with fence and installed cement blocks on the banks. Esquimalt Anglers work party was Les Jenkinson, Cal Brillinger, Jack Stidson, Doug Knight, Gary Caton. The fish showed up Nov 11 after 3 days of rain to bring fish over the falls from the tidal area. Broodstock coho sent to hatchery recovered 32,000 eggs. Water over the fish fence Nov. 30, so were not able to trap any more. We obtained 20,000 eggs from sooke for broodstock.</p>	42
1992	21	27	G Caton	<p>First Coho in trap Nov 22, very little water waiting for more rain. Recovered Coho to hatchery provided 50,000 eggs for broodstock. We had a late showing of Coho returns on Jan 23; 6 males; 2 females (big fish).</p>	48

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1993	G Caton/J Stidson	<p>Esq Anglers crew built a smolt trap to count outgoing Coho smolts. Smolt run starts in the spring (April). We ended up with 1950 smolts weighing 190/205 gm. Quit counting June 15. June 29 released 10,000 hatchery raised fry into Pike and Prior lakes. Blood and animal offal showing up in the stream from the slaughter house located by Fort Victoria. DFO closed them down and fined them \$3000, which was donated to EA. We bought the hatchery a fish scale with the fine money . Nov 28 very cold, we found 30 Coho dead just below falls in tidal pools. They were caught in low water and froze in ice. Dec 1 counted 5 in the trap. Counted 55 Dec 10. 20 in trap Dec 11. Last fish in trap Jan 2. Coho broodstock taken to hatchery provided 50,000 eggs. April 12 still having junk cars being hauled out beside fish fence, quite a mess oil /etc. Crew installed and checked smolt trap daily. Transplanted 20,000 Coho fry from hatchery into Prior and 20,000 coho fry into Pike lakes.</p>	207
1994	G Caton/J Stidson	<p>April 12 still having junk cars hauled away beside fish fence, quite a mess oil /etc, former junk yard. Crew installed and checked smolt trap daily. Transplanted 20,000 Coho fry from hatchery into Prior and 20,000 Coho fry into Pike lakes. Oct 28 Coho in the tidal area but not enough water to get them up the falls. Trevor Morris had CRD release water from Thetis Lake to get fish over falls and into Craigflower creek. Emptied trap 3 times today. Counted 134 Coho. Brood stock sent to the hatchery provided 70,000 eggs. Otters taking fish around fence. Nov. 29 still putting fish over the trap</p>	134
1995	Gary Caton/Jack Stidson	<p>Feb. new highway widening starting. DFO to monitor creek. April very few smolts counted. June 26 transplanted 45,000 fry from hatchery into Prior and Pike lakes. Three twin-culverts under highway finished. Concern with the fish refusing to swim through the culvert under the 5 lanes of traffic. Oct 10, 2 Coho in trap with more downstream. Thetis lake will release some water to assist fish up falls from saltwater. 36 females/ 16 males transported to hatchery for brood stock. Recovered 72000 eggs /2 large females gave over 4000 eggs each. Very heavy rains flooded over fence so no accurate counts this year. Counted 70 Coho before we were flooded out.</p>	70

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1996		G Caton	<p>Had to pull out smolt trap to clean out silt from heavy winter rains. Hatchery report 96% survival of last fall's egg take. Esquimalt Anglers commissioned Playsted Metal to build Al. transport tank for \$3,000, donated to Goldstream hatchery. Smolt trap installed in April. Counted 500 through trap by May 11. Transplanted 40,000 chum fry from hatchery into Prior/Pike lakes as they do a great job of cleaning up the stream beds. Chum fry passed through the trap in a few days. Counting 1500 Coho smolts. Removed the trap first week in June. In Sept. we electro-shocked the overpass area and counted 5000 Coho fry. Oct. 18 counted 14 Coho through fence. Oct 18, transported 22,000 Coho fry to Prior Lake and 24,000 fry into Pike lake. Hatchery held these fry extra 6-months so they are a very large size. Only counted 35 Coho through trap. Nov. 27 creek flooded over fish fence.</p>	35
1997		G Caton	<p>Cal and crew constructed shed beside fish fence to store equipment. Smolt trap installed April 10. Counted 15,319 April 11 to May 2. Kept counting, ended up with 27,500 altogether. April transplanted 40,000 chum fry into creek at Hyland Road bridge. June 2, we escavated the trap site and installed big concrete blocks on the north wall to shore up the bank. Placed big rocks in channel to divert the water into the trap, works better. DFO did not want that done. We used casino money to do the creek enhancemenet [\$3200], also installed a metal grid on the walkway along fish fence so not so slippery [\$900]. Oct 4, first fish through tap. This is the earlist we have ever had them show up. Oct 10 counted 30 coho, 2 sockeye and 2 chum. Oct 15 Anglers crew clipped about 26,000 coho smolts in the lower gums to be put in both Prior and Pike lakes. By Oct 31 counted 60 coho through trap. By Nov 29 counted 80 returns. Broodstock sent to hatchery provided 45,000 eggs.</p>	80
1998	11	G Caton	<p>Feb 11 installed smolt trap. By May counted 300 smolts. A few with jaw clipped. Transported 86,000 chum from hatchery to top of the falls above saltwater. Nov. 5 transplanted 16,000 Coho fry from hatchery to Prior lake. First Coho returns Nov. 13. Counted 100 Coho and 11 chum. Sent 60 Coho to hatchery for broodstock. Nov. 16 counted 35 Coho. today. Nov. 19, 372 Coho in trap. Sent 95 more to hatchery. 156,000 total eggs this year. Nov. 21 heavy rains flooded over fence</p>	650

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1999			12	G Caton	April transplanted 40,000 Coho fry and 30,000 chum fry into Prior/Pike lakes. Oct 9 first sighting of returning Coho in Portage Inlet. Oct 28 noted 9 Coho passed through trap that was open. In future trap will remain in place. 51 Coho take to hatchery for egg take. 12 Coho were jawclipped from the fish released into Prior/Pike lakes. Nov 10/11 counted 31 Coho and 12 chum through trap. Chum were from the 95/96 release. Ended run with 200 Coho counted.	200
2000			6	G Caton	Jan. transplanted 12,000 fry into Pike lake and 24,000 fry into Prior lake. Spring transplanted 15,000 pre-smolts into both lakes. Installed smolt trap in April. As of May only counted 30 smolts. Main smolt run prior to trap install. Very low water flow this year for fish returning to the creek. Nov. 8 first fish returned through trap. 6 chums showed up Nov 26. Brood stock transported to hatchery produced 50,000 eggs. Last fish counted Jan 10. Total count for season 71 Coho and 6 chum.	71
2001	499	536	747	G Caton	DFO announced we will no longer be supplied with fry from the hatchery. Declared Craigflower creek an indicator stream, so it will have to be self sustaining from now on. We did not agree with this decision. Oct 22 sent broodstock to hatchery. Otters taking lot of fish in trap. Fish thru the trap every day. By Nov 15 counted 265. By Nov 25 counted 280 male and 250 female Coho. Counted 250 male and 408 female chum. run ended Dec. 9. Dec. 15 water flooded over fence.	1035
2002			224	G Caton	Nov 13 first Coho through the trap. CRD helped by releasing water from Thetis lake as creek is very low flow. Counted 25 chum salmon. Nov 18 hard rain brought in 73 Coho /59 chum. No fished counted for 3 weeks as no rain events to bring fish up from saltwater. Dec 15 heavy rains moved 233 Coho through trap. Jan 5 end of run with 295 coho/224 chum for year.	295
2003			9	G Caton	First Coho through trap Oct 16. Heavy rain flooded over fence so no fish counted. Nov. 18 counted 9 chum. Nov 28 area has 4" rain causing flood over fence again. Dec.30 counted 35 coho/9 chum through trap.	35
2004			7	G Caton	Nov 2 counted 84 Coho. One 18 lb Chinook through trap. Probably from net pen fish from Esquimalt harbour. Run ended Dec 4. Total for run 210 coho/7 chum.	210

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2005			1	G Caton/J Stidson	To help fish ascend falls at outlet of the creek DFO constructed rock walls to force water down west side of waterfalls. Run ended Dec.24. Due to heavy rains flooding over fence only 8 coho/1 chum counted.	8
2006				G Caton/J Stidson/	Nov. 4 counted 20 Coho. Fence flooded over for weeks so no more fish counted.	20
2007				G Caton/J Stidson/	Transplanted 6500 Coho fry from hatchery to Prior lake. Oct. 7 counted 12 through trap. Otter ate 6. Heavy rains again flooded over fence. Total counted for run 25.	25
2008	18	17		G Caton/J Stidson	Nov. 5 counted 35 through trap. 5 morts in trap.	35
2009	121	128	1	1 B Bevan/G Caton	<p>March transported 1500 coho fry from hatchery to Prior lake. First coho reported in Portage Inlet Sept. 9. Seals are reported to be feeding heavily on coho waiting to enter the creek, but not enough water flow from the creek to allow them to ascend waterfall at creek entrance. First fish through trap Oct. 17 after first rain event. Water flow dropped dramatically after the first flush so water release was requested from Thetis lake to help fish in creek. CRD refused to release water over liability concerns with divers in Thetis lake hurting themselves. Otter ate 4 fish in trap. 46 coho broodstock taken to hatchery that provided 25,000 eggs. High water flooded over fence so some fish not counted. Last fish recorded Nov. 16. Total for season 249 coho; 1 chum and 1 cuthroat trout. Started working with Living Rivers Society to obtain more water for creek in summer. Talks started with CRD Parks to request water release from Thetis lake during the 2010 summer period.</p> <p>A valve/dam was constructed in 1983 to provide a water flow into Craigflower creek in the dry season. The valve had not been operated by park's staff for many years. A trial water release for 2010 was proposed.</p>	249

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2010	21	27	B Bevan/G Caton	<p>Jan. 11 beaver started eating rails in counting fence. June 29 installed new water level staff gauge below counting fence. Nov. 4 transplanted 12,000 Coho fry from the hatchery to Prior lake. First Coho return to counting fence Oct. 24. Last Coho through trap Dec. 1. Dec.11 creek flooded over counting fence. Total returns 21 male and 27 female. Total 48 Coho. 2010 was a record dry summer season. CRD refused to implement the trial water release from Thetis lake, citing liability concerns with divers jumping into lake from cliffs. The resultant dry creek caused an estimated 90% mortality of Coho fry (est. 6-10,000 fry).</p>	48
2011	27	26	B Bevan/G Caton	<p>March 19 beaver eating more of wooden counting fence. Fence replaced Sept. 20 using galv. pipe rails. June 1 started continuous measurements downstream of the counting fence for water depth; discharge; temperature. Ambient temperature, relative humidity and precipitation measured near the storage shed. The first trial release of licensed water from Thetis lake began June 1. CRD Parks staff with technical oversight from BC Conservation Foundation (BCCF) released from 2-10 l/sec in accordance with a 'rule band' (see document under 'Thetis Lake trial water release'). Aug. 11 installed a new 4" syphon over a beaver dam at Pike lake to provide a water flow of approximately 2-4 litres/sec. Sept. 11 first coho counted through fence. Dec. 29 last fish counted. Total for season 27 male and 26 female. 2 male and 7 female taken to hatchery for brood stock. Nov. 9 transported 9,000 coho fry from hatchery to Prior lake. Fry weighed average 10 gm.</p>	53
2012	513	809	B Bevan/G Caton	<p>May 25, transplanted 200,000 chum fry from hatchery to Craigflower Ck. at Prior Lake outlet off Hyland Rd. Water enhancement projects repeated for Thetis Lake and Pike Lake. First reports of Coho holding in Gorge waterway Sept. 25. Transplanted 20,000 Coho fry (super fry size) from hatchery to Craigflower Ck. Oct. 24. First fish through counting fence Oct. 14. Last fish counted Dec. 30. 17 male and 5 female Coho morts at fence attributed to three otters that regularly patrol fence area. 12 male and 11 female Coho transported to hatchery for egg take. 30,000 eggs recovered.</p>	1322

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2013	152	147	B Bevan/G Caton	<p>Continued flow enhancement from Pike and Thetis Lakes. Constructed and installed fine removable screens for counting fence to prevent in-migrating fish from getting gilled in fence rails. They also permit flow regulation through fish trap. Closed fence gate on September 23. First salmon sighted in Gorge Waterway September 23. First Coho through trap September 29. Last Coho through trap December 1. One Jack Coho was caught in the trap. 18 male and 18 female Coho transported to Goldstream Hatchery for broodstock. Observed soap contamination emanating from storm drain from Erskine Way subdivision that completely enveloped Helmeken Falls with bubbles. It is speculated that some Coho turned back and went up Colquitz River as the salmon count from Colquitz was disproportionately higher this year. December 15, removed screens and opened gates on counting fence.</p>	300
2014	639	950	4 B Bevan/G Caton	<p>Continued the flow enhancement from Pike and Thetis Lakes. Out-migrating Coho smolts leave the fresh water of Craigflower and Colquitz river in April and remain in the Portage Inlet/Gorge waterway till June. July 1, out-migrating Coho smolts sighted in tide line inside the Ogden Point breakwater. Beaver constructed a dam around the water outlet valve at the Thetis Lake spillway. July 1, the flow enhancement from Thetis Lake was interrupted and the creek flow dropped to critically low levels. July 8, Esquimalt Anglers worked with CRD Parks and constructed a temporary by-pass syphon to permit continuation of flow into Craigflower Creek from Thetis Lake while formal permits were acquired to clear the blockage from the dam. September 5, the valve operation was re-established and the syphon flow discontinued. September 16, rebuilt fish trap with narrower gaps to permit better retention of Jack Coho and Cuthroat trout. September 16, closed gate on fish counting</p>	1821

Craigflower Cr.

October 15, transplanted 15 thousand fin-clipped Coho fry into Prior Lake from Goldstream hatchery. First salmon sighted in the Gorge waterway, below Tillicum bridge, September 26. The Coho held in the pool below Tillicum bridge this year. Their normal pattern is to hold in Portage Inlet. As a result there were many hundreds of fish caught by local fishers from shore and boat before the salmon moved into the creeks. Recorded 639 Male, 950 Female and 232 Jack Coho through the trap this year. 13 male and 38 female Coho were transported to the Goldstream Hatcher for broodstock. First Coho through the counting fence Oct. 22. Last Coho through the trap Dec.21.

2015