

ABSTRACT

We estimated the annual abundance of sockeye spawning in a “study area” of Sitkoh Lake in 2011 using data from four, two-day, mark-recapture trips. The numbers of beach spawners in this “study area” adjacent to the West U.S. Forest Service cabin was then compared to similar modified Jolly-Seber mark-recapture estimates from 1997 to 2006 and 2010 to assess the relative strength of the 2011 escapement. In 2011, 2,128 (CV=7%) sockeye spawned in the study area which was the second lowest on record. Other indices computed using the mark-recapture data also show a low relative abundance of sockeye spawners in Sitkoh Lake in 2011.