

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
HABITAT CONSERVATION DIVISION  
Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch  
Stream Evaluation Program

**TIMING, COMPOSITION AND ABUNDANCE OF JUVENILE  
ANADROMOUS SALMONID EMIGRATION IN THE  
SACRAMENTO RIVER NEAR KNIGHTS LANDING  
OCTOBER 1996–SEPTEMBER 1997**

by

Bill Snider  
and  
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Stream Evaluation Program  
Technical Report No. 00-04  
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<sup>1/</sup> Conducted by the Department of Fish and Game. Funded partially by the California Department of Water Resources through the Interagency Ecological Program.

<sup>2/</sup> Stream Evaluation Program Technical Report No. 00-4

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## SUMMARY

Juvenile salmonids emigrating via the Sacramento River to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) were sampled 0.5 miles downstream of the town of Knights Landing at river mile (RM) 89.5 from 29 September 1996–4 October 1997. Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*) were the target species. Sampling was conducted using two 8-ft diameter rotary screw traps (RSTs) during the entire reporting period, and up to three, 5-ft diameter fyke nets from 26 March through 30 June 1997. This period was the second consecutive year of emigration monitoring conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) near Knights Landing (Snider and Titus 1998).

Mean weekly flow ranged from 4,487 cfs in week 43 (20–26 October 1996) to 29,470 cfs in week 2 (5–11 January 1997). Peak mean daily flow was 31,725 cfs on 5 January 1997. Water transparency (Secchi disk depth) ranged from 0.3 ft to 3.8 ft. Mean weekly water temperature decreased from 65°F in week 40 (29 September–5 October 1996) to 47°F in week 3 (12–18 January 1997), then increased relatively quickly to 52°F by week 8 (16–22 February 1997), 60°F by week 13 (23–29 March 1997), and eventually 70°F by week 21 (18–24 May 1997).

A total of 51,347 juvenile salmon was collected by RST in 17,533 hours of trapping (2.93 fish/h). The total catch included 1,060 marked salmon (adipose-fin-clipped fish released from Coleman National Fish Hatchery [CNFH]), and 50,287 unmarked salmon. Fall-run-sized juveniles dominated both groups comprising 88% of the unmarked salmon catch and 84% of the marked salmon catch. Late-fall-run salmon comprised <1% of the unmarked salmon catch and 16% of the marked salmon catch; 91.5% of unmarked late fall were from brood year (BY) 1996 and 8.5% were from BY 1997. Winter-run salmon comprised <1% of the unmarked salmon catch and <1% of the marked salmon catch; 98% of unmarked winter run were from BY 1996 and 2% were from BY 1997. Spring-run-sized salmon comprised 11% of the unmarked salmon catch. However, we determined that many of the spring-run-sized fish captured at Knights Landing during mid-spring were hatchery-produced fall run released into the system starting in week 14. As a result, we identified 59% of spring-run-sized salmon as hatchery-produced fall run, reducing the spring-run composition of the unmarked salmon to <5%, and increasing the fall-run composition of unmarked salmon to 95%.

The primary emigration period extended from mid-November 1996 (week 46) through late-June 1997 (week 27). Eleven fall-run, five winter-run and two late-fall-run salmon were collected after the primary emigration period ended (from weeks 28 through 40 of 1997). Emigration occurred in three phases: (i) phase 1 was coincident with the initial flow increase of the season, before many fall run were present; (ii) phase 2 was associated with a substantially greater flow increase and the presence of numerous fall run; and (iii) phase 3 was associated with large releases of CNFH-produced fall run. These phases were also exhibited during the 1995–1996 salmon emigration season.

During the 1996–1997 emigration period, phase 1 began during week 46 (10–16 November 1996) and lasted through week 52 (22–28 December 1996), peaking during week 50 (8–14 December 1996). Most (89%) in-river-produced late-fall-run yearling migration, 51% of BY 1996 in-river-produced winter-run migration, 72% of all spring-run migration, but only 6% of fall-run migration occurred during this phase. Phase 2 overlapped phase 1 as a substantial flow increase and a corresponding jump in fry migration occurred relatively early, in week 50. Phase 2 extended from week 50 through week 14 (8 December 1996–5 April 1997), with peaks during weeks 50, 1, and 10–11. The first peak overlapped with salmon movement occurring during emigration phase 1, as described above. The second peak was coincident with a mean weekly flow increase from 22,198 to 29,268 cfs. (Flow at Knights Landing was considerably less than that upstream of Sutter Bypass as most flow was diverted around Knights Landing via the bypass.) The third peak was coincident with a decrease in the proportion of flow being diverted into Sutter Bypass, thus increasing the proportion of salmon migrating down the Sacramento River via Knights Landing. Altogether, 51% of the total fall-run catch occurred during this phase. The third phase began during week 15, one week after the first release of fingerling-sized, CNFH-produced fall run. The peak in the season's catch occurred during weeks 15–18 when 18,087 fall-run emigrants were collected (38% of all captured fall run).

Fifty-four in-river-produced (unmarked) late-fall-run juveniles from BY 1996 were collected from week 46 through week 4 (10 November 1996–25 January 1997). The highest catch occurred during week 50 ( $n = 34$ ). Five in-river-produced late-fall-run juveniles from BY 1997 were also collected from weeks 23 through 34 (1 June–23 August 1997).

A total of 250 in-river-produced winter-run chinook salmon from BY 1996 was collected from week 48 through week 19 (24 November 1996–10 May 1997). Eleven percent of these fish were collected during November, 40% in December, 17% in January, 14% in February, 14% in March, 3% in April, and 1% in May. Five winter run from BY 1997 were caught after week 33 following the primary emigration period.

In-river-produced spring-run chinook salmon (based on size criteria) first appeared in the RSTs in week 48, during emigration phase 1, and were captured during every week through week 14. A total of 2,305 in-river-produced spring-run juveniles was collected by RST. Catch distribution appeared to have two modes corresponding to emigration phases 1 and 2.

Altogether, 44,287 unmarked, fall-run-sized juvenile salmon were collected. The first fall run captured was a yearling-sized salmon collected during week 47. Fall run were then collected from week 50 through week 27 (8 December 1996–5 July 1997). Eleven fall run were also collected between weeks 30 and 36 (20 July–6 September 1997). Distinction between in-river- and hatchery-produced fall run was problematic after week 7 when nearly 2 million, unmarked hatchery-reared fall-run fry were released into the upper Sacramento River. As such, only fall-run-sized salmon caught prior to week 8 were known in-river-produced salmon. During weeks 14–19, more than 12 million fingerling-sized, hatchery-produced fall run were released into the upper Sacramento River system. Based upon the ratio of marked fish to unmarked fish caught at

Knights Landing after releases began, about 52% of the fall-run caught after week 14 were hatchery produced.

A total of 156 yearling steelhead trout was caught from weeks 3 through 21 (12 January–24 May 1997). Ten percent were caught in January, 41% in February, 17% in March, 22% in April, and 10% in May. More than 500,000 unmarked, hatchery-produced yearlings were released into the upper river during weeks three and four making it impossible to distinguish in-river from hatchery-produced steelhead. Ten adult-sized steelhead were also collected. Five of these fish were likely 2-year-old smolts.

Estimates of the relative abundance of juvenile salmonids emigrating past Knights Landing are provided based upon a mean RST efficiency of 1.45% (range: 0.0%–5.40%; SD = 1.19%; 80% CI: 1.06%–1.83%;  $n = 17$ ). The estimated number of in-river salmon that passed Knights Landing included 4,138 BY 1996 late-fall run and 345 BY 1997 late-fall run; 18,690 winter run; 160,276 spring run; and 2,667,679 fall run. The estimated number of hatchery-produced chinook salmon passing Knights Landing was 12,138 late-fall run, 138 winter run, and 759,355 fall run. The estimated number of combined in-river- and hatchery-produced yearling steelhead passing Knights Landing was 11,586.

Fyke net catches were substantially less than the RST catches (~14%) during the concurrent sampling period. However, trends in catch, and catch composition were similar. Catch by both gears peaked during the same week. The portion of each catch comprising fall-run salmon and steelhead were comparable, as was the proportion of marked salmon.

Emigration from the upper Sacramento River system to the Delta is exclusively through Knights Landing until flow increases require diversion through the Sutter Bypass, upstream of Knights Landing. Typically, diversion to the bypass occurs when flow exceeds about 23,000 cfs. During 1996–1997, flow exceeded 23,000 cfs from week 50 of 1996 through week 7 of 1997 when nearly 40% of the catch occurred at Knights Landing. Since the proportion of juvenile salmonids that emigrates through the bypass is unknown, the magnitude of salmonids emigrating to the Delta cannot be estimated by just using Knights Landing results. However, the temporal distribution and, likely, the relative abundance of juvenile salmonids migrating toward the Delta are reflected in the Knights Landing results.

## INTRODUCTION

Juvenile anadromous salmonid emigration was monitored on the Sacramento River near Knights Landing (RM 89.5) for the second consecutive year (Snider and Titus 1998). Monitoring was conducted to develop information on timing, composition (race and species), and relative abundance of juvenile chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* and steelhead *O. mykiss* emigrating from the upper Sacramento River system. This information provides early warning of emigration into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) to enable implementation of management actions deemed necessary to protect juvenile anadromous salmonids as they pass into and through the Delta. Data acquired over several years will improve understanding of the attributes of emigration and identify implications of management actions both up- and downstream of the Delta relative to protection and recovery of the Sacramento River's anadromous salmonid populations.

The indigenous, anadromous salmonid populations of California's Central Valley have been severely reduced due to a variety of man-caused alterations to their environment. The region's chinook salmon and steelhead trout populations have been extirpated from most of their historic range and the existence of the few remaining depleted populations is constantly challenged. Beginning in the mid-1800's through the mid-1900's, the construction of dams on most of the major streams within the Valley progressively eliminated use of more than 90% of these fishes' historic habitat. Changes in water quality and drastic modifications in stream channel form began with the unbridled quest for gold in 1849 and continue today with escalating urban expansion and intensive agriculture and industrial development. Stream channels have been modified to protect cities and agriculture. Pollutants ranging from elevated water temperatures to urban and agricultural runoff and associated, sophisticated toxicants, including pesticides and treated effluent, have further degraded much of the region's stream habitats. Increasing water diversion continues to modify the timing and magnitude of flow that sustain most of the remaining habitat.

Emigrating fish are continually lost as they attempt to navigate the many diversions that lie between their natal streams and the Pacific Ocean. Potentially, the most imposing of these diversions are the State Water Project's Harvey Banks Delta Pumping Plant and the Central Valley Project's Tracy Pumping Plant both located in the southern Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The work summarized in this report is a portion of an ongoing effort upon the part of water developers and fishery managers to reduce the deleterious impacts of these facilities on Central Valley salmon and steelhead, to preserve one of California's valued natural heritages.

Anadromous salmonids produced in the Sacramento River system upstream of the Feather River (RM 80) are of special concern. The upper Sacramento River and several of its tributaries (Figure 1) provide most of the essential spawning and rearing habitat for the Central Valley's depleted, anadromous salmonid populations. The winter-run chinook salmon<sup>1</sup>, unique to California's Central Valley, spawns and rears exclusively in the upper Sacramento River. Central

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<sup>1</sup> Listed as endangered under both the California and Federal Endangered Species acts.

Valley spring-run chinook salmon<sup>2</sup> are nearly exclusive to the upper Sacramento system where remnant populations occur in a few isolated locations including Deer, Mill and Butte creeks (Figure 1). All late-fall-run chinook salmon, most steelhead trout<sup>3</sup> and a major portion of the natural, or in-river-produced, fall-run chinook salmon spawn and rear in the upper Sacramento River and its tributaries. The continued existence of these populations could well depend upon the ability to protect the juveniles as they emigrate from their natal waters, into and through the Delta on their way to the Pacific Ocean.

Accurate estimates of the abundance and timing of emigrating anadromous salmonids as they enter the Delta would improve the ability to address critical water management questions. Water management activities in the Delta can influence survival of anadromous salmonids. Various restrictions have been placed on project operations to protect juvenile salmonids migrating through and residing within the Delta. For example, Delta diversions are limited seasonally predicated on the presence of winter-run chinook salmon. Water management decisions could be considered for the other anadromous salmonids under increasing concern (i.e., spring-run chinook salmon and steelhead trout) if better information existed on timing, abundance, and overall emigration attributes. Improved estimates of the timing and relative abundance of these species as they enter the Delta should improve confidence in defining impacts and protective measures to enhance overall protection, and potentially maximize water management flexibility.

An appropriately located and operated monitoring site would provide early warning of emigrating juvenile salmonids entering the Delta and improve the ability to use water project flexibility and other actions to protect winter-run chinook salmon and, potentially, other anadromous species of concern. As such, representatives of agencies involved in fishery and water management issues within the Central Valley recommended establishing a monitoring station to:

- 1) Provide early warning to trigger Central Valley Project and State Water Project operation modifications (e.g., manipulation of Delta Cross Channel gate operation and water export levels).
- 2) Provide a monitoring station intermediate between the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) diversion and the Delta.
- 3) Provide opportunity to follow movement of juvenile salmonids downstream in response to various environmental conditions, including flow.
- 4) Determine the relative proportion of winter-run chinook salmon fry and pre-smolts that enter and potentially rear in the lower river and Delta through the fall and early-winter months.
- 5) Develop abundance estimates for juvenile salmonids entering the lower river and Delta.

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<sup>2</sup>Listed as threatened under both the California and Federal Endangered Species acts.

<sup>3</sup>Listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act.



To address the feasibility of monitoring the timing and abundance of juvenile anadromous salmonids emigrating exclusively from the upper Sacramento River system into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, a pilot monitoring station was established near Knights Landing on the Sacramento River at RM 89.5 (Figure 1) in November 1995. Potentially, progenies of all Central Valley winter run and late-fall run, most spring run, a major portion of fall run, and most in-river produced steelhead trout emigrate past the Knights Landing sampling site<sup>4</sup>. Other monitoring programs within the Sacramento River system are either too far upstream of the Delta to accurately monitor the timing and abundance of emigration into the Delta (e.g., Red Bluff Diversion Dam (RBDD) at RM 245 and GCID diversion at RM 206), or are too close to the Delta and can have difficulty in discriminating fish originating from the upper Sacramento River system and those produced in the Feather and American rivers (e.g., Sacramento at RM 55).

Knights Landing was selected as the pilot monitoring site, relative to downstream locations, due to apparent favorable channel and flow conditions. It appeared to have greater opportunity for using a diversity of fish sampling methods including relatively efficient gear types such as rotary screw traps (RSTs). The river channel is relatively narrow and there is less flow than in the Sacramento River downstream of the Feather and American rivers and upstream of the Sutter Bypass. The site also provided an intermediate monitoring point between GCID, the next sampling station upstream (RM 206), and the Delta.

## METHODS

Juvenile salmonids emigrating via the Sacramento River to the Delta were sampled 0.5 miles downstream of the town of Knights Landing at RM 89.5 (Figure 1). Sampling occurred from 29 September 1996 through 4 October 1997 using two 8-ft diameter RSTs throughout the entire survey period, and up to three, 5-ft-diameter, round fyke nets during spring 1997.

The two RSTs were lashed together and located on the outside of a wide bend in the river approximately 100 ft from the east bank. Three 40-pound Dansforth anchors and 3/8" diameter wire ropes were used to position and secure the two traps in the stream channel. The trap complex was also secured to the east bank with a safety line of 1/4" diameter wire rope. Water depth at the trap location was 20 ft at a flow of 15,000 cfs; mean current velocity was 3.0 ft/s. The sample site cross sectional profile measured at 10,000 cfs is presented in Figure 2.

Fyke nets were fished from 26 March 1997 through 30 June 1997 (weeks 13–27). One fyke net, deployed on 26 March 1997, was cabled to the RST complex and deployed approximately 30 ft

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<sup>4</sup>Emigrants can enter the Sutter Bypass, upstream of Knights Landing when flow in the vicinity of the bypass surpasses 23,000 cfs. The proportion of emigrants entering the bypass is unknown; their survival to the Delta is also unknown.

behind the RST complex. A second fyke net was deployed 500 ft downstream of the RST complex on 1 April 1997 (week 14) and a third was deployed 1,000 ft downstream of the RST complex on 25 April 1997 (week 17). All three fykes were fished just below the river's surface. The two downstream fykes were fished near the bank in about 6 ft of water.

Data acquired from each trap per servicing included total time fished since the last servicing, current velocity at the trap opening, and, for RSTs, the average number of cone revolutions per minute, and the cumulative number of cone revolutions since the last servicing. All salmonids were counted by species, and race for chinook salmon<sup>5</sup>. All salmon classified as winter run, spring run and late-fall run were measured (fork length [FL] in mm and weight in g). At each trap servicing, up to 150 fall-run-sized salmon per trap were selected and measured using a random-stratified subsampling protocol. All juvenile steelhead trout were counted and measured. The traps were serviced up to two times per day: once in mid-morning and once near dusk.

The data are reported on a weekly time step to smooth variation in effort and trap efficiency while retaining sufficient detail to evaluate trends in timing and abundance. Data were typically reduced to weekly sums or weekly means. Weeks began on Sunday and ended on Saturday and were identified by number. Week 1 was defined as the first week of 1997 (i.e., contains 1 January 1997). Weeks prior to week 1 were consecutively numbered in descending order from 52; weeks after week 1 were numbered in ascending order.

Flow at Knights Landing was obtained from records of the U. S. Geological Survey gaging station at Wilkins Slough. Water transparency was measured each day at the RST using a Secchi disk following standard methods (Orth 1983). Water temperature was measured during each trap servicing using a hand-held thermometer.

Trap efficiency was evaluated using a mark-and-recapture technique. All trapped chinook salmon (except winter-run-sized chinook) were marked using Bismark Brown *Y* stain (e.g. Deacon 1961) then released about 0.5 miles upstream of the traps. Efficiency was calculated as the percentage of marked fish that were recaptured in the traps on a weekly basis. Trap efficiency evaluations started during week 48 of 1996 (24–30 November 1996) and continued through week 19 of 1997 (4–10 May 1997). Salmon were generally marked and released each day from week 50 of 1996 (8–14 December 1996) through week 19, except during week 14 when less than 100 salmon were collected. Our objective was to mark and release at least 100 salmon per trial. When <100 salmon were collected in a day, fish were held until  $\geq 100$  fish were available for marking, or up to 3 days maximum, whichever occurred first. Recapture data collected during weeks 1–4 (29 December 1996–25 January 1997) were not reported due to problems identifying recaptured salmon.

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<sup>5</sup>Salmon race was determined using size-at-time criteria developed by Frank Fisher (California Department of Fish and Game, Northern California - North Coast Region, unpubl. data).

Adipose-fin clipped (marked) salmon produced at Coleman National Fish Hatchery (CNFH), near RM 271.5, and released into the upper Sacramento River system were available for capture at Knights Landing throughout the survey. All captured marked fish were collected and examined for coded-wire tags (CWT). All acquired CWTs were read to verify the fish's source, including race. Information on race derived from the tag replaced the original size-at-time race designation, as needed. Race was determined for marked fish without a CWT by considering the fish's size and tag data collected from other marked, similarly sized fish captured at the same time.

## RESULTS and DISCUSSION

### General Sampling Conditions

Mean weekly flow ranged from 4,520 cfs in week 43 (20–26 October 1996) to 29,470 cfs in week 2 (5–11 January 1997) (Table 1). Mean daily flow was as high as 31,725 cfs on 5 January 1997 (Figure 3). Flow was high early, reaching flood levels by the end of December 1996. Flow also receded early as precipitation declined to drought-like levels from mid-January, immediately following historic flood conditions, through the end of the survey period. Mean weekly water temperature decreased from 65°F in week 40 (29 September–5 October 1996) to 47°F in week 3 (12–18 January 1997) (Table 1, Figure 3), then increased relatively quickly to 52°F by week 8 (16–22 February 1997), 61°F by week 13 (23–29 March 1997), and eventually 70°F by week 20 (11–17 May 1997). Mean weekly water temperature after week 20 ranged from 65°F to 70°F through the end of the survey period.

Water transparency (Secchi disk depth) was very poor throughout the survey (Figure 4), and ranged from 0.3 ft to 3.8 ft (Table 1). Transparency was inversely related to flow. Mean weekly transparency (as  $\ln$  Secchi disk depth) was negatively correlated ( $\rho = -0.73$ ) with mean weekly river flow. Flow was not a particularly good predictor of transparency ( $r^2 = 0.53$ ) although the linear model relating the two variables was highly significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ) (Appendix Figure 1).

The two RSTs were successfully operated within a fairly wide range of flows (~4,500 to ~30,000 cfs; Figure 5). Interruptions in sampling were typically less than 24 h within a week and were generally due to debris buildup that disabled the traps. Longer interruptions occurred during week 52 (22–28 December 1996) and week 1 (29 December–4 January 1997) when the traps were raised during holidays. Debris-induced interruptions occurred during weeks 48 (24–30 November 1996), 1 (29 December–4 January 1997), 4 (19–25 January 1997), 21 (18–24 May 1997) and 27 (29 June–5 July 1997). The only weeks during which neither trap was fishing for more than 24 h at a time was during weeks 52 and 1. Overall, the two RSTs fished nearly 99% of the time averaging 331 h/week (out of a possible 336 h).

Table 1. Summary of mean weekly sampling conditions in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing during the juvenile salmonid emigration investigation, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Beginning date	Mean flow (cfs)	Mean water temperature (°F)	Mean Secchi depth (ft)
40	29 Sep 1996	7,505	65	3.1
41	6 Oct 1996	6,478	65	3.1
42	13 Oct 1996	4,723	62	2.1
43	20 Oct 1996	4,520	56	2.7
44	27 Oct 1996	5,236	55	3.5
45	3 Nov 1996	5,307	55	3.7
46	10 Nov 1996	5,267	57	3.8
47	17 Nov 1996	7,115	58	2.6
48	24 Nov 1996	8,150	56	1.4
49	1 Dec 1996	8,210	50	2.6
50	8 Dec 1996	22,600	52	0.5
51	15 Dec 1996	24,737	51	1.4
52	22 Dec 1996	22,198	49	1.4
1	29 Dec 1996	29,268	52	0.4
2	5 Jan 1997	29,470	48	0.3
3	12 Jan 1997	28,051	47	0.3
4	19 Jan 1997	27,499	48	0.4
5	26 Jan 1997	28,812	50	0.3
6	2 Feb 1997	26,654	49	0.3
7	9 Feb 1997	23,599	50	0.3
8	16 Feb 1997	15,669	52	0.5
9	23 Feb 1997	12,296	52	0.4
10	2 Mar 1997	10,397	53	0.5
11	9 Mar 1997	8,819	56	0.6
12	16 Mar 1997	11,004	57	0.5
13	23 Mar 1997	9,816	61	0.6
14	30 Mar 1997	8,510	57	0.7
15	6 Apr 1997	7,159	58	0.7
16	13 Apr 1997	6,056	63	1.0
17	20 Apr 1997	7,159	63	1.1
18	27 Apr 1997	5,259	65	1.4
19	4 May 1997	5,179	67	1.4
20	11 May 1997	6,096	70	1.9
21	18 May 1997	5,737	70	1.4
22	25 May 1997	7,467	67	1.4
23	1 Jun 1997	7,156	68	1.6

Table 1 (continued)

Week	Beginning date	Mean flow (cfs)	Mean water temperature (°F)	Mean Secchi depth (ft)
24	8 Jun 1997	8,335	69	1.4
25	15 Jun 1997	9,873	68	1.4
26	22 Jun 1997	9,253	67	2.3
27	29 Jun 1997	9,851	66	2.0
28	6 Jul 1997	9,350	69	1.6
29	13 Jul 1997	9,613	68	1.2
30	20 Jul 1997	9,738	68	1.2
31	27 Jul 1997	9,580	68	1.1
32	3 Aug 1997	9,660	68	1.2
33	10 Aug 1997	8,749	69	1.3
34	17 Aug 1997	6,984	69	1.3
35	24 Aug 1997	6,800	70	0.9
36	31 Aug 1997	7,672	70	1.0
37	7 Sep 1997	8,276	68	1.3
38	14 Sep 1997	7,629	66	1.6
39	21 Sep 1997	6,655	66	2.2
40	28 Sep 1997	5,868	65	2.4

## Rotary Screw Trap Results

### Chinook Salmon Emigration

No chinook salmon were collected until flows started to increase in mid-November 1996 (week 46) (Table 2). Catch increased from 3 salmon combined during weeks 46 and 47 to 47 salmon in week 48 and peaked at 2,798 in week 50 (Table 2, Figure 6). A second mode in catch began in week 52, peaked in week 1 of 1997 at 4,949 salmon, then gradually decreased from 2,833 salmon in week 2 to 1,067 salmon in week 9. Catch increased again during week 10 (2,982 salmon), then peaked at 3,170 salmon during week 11 before declining again to a low of 94 salmon during week 14. The final mode in catch began in week 15, increasing from 3,470 salmon during week 15 to the seasonal high of 7,948 salmon during week 18 before declining to <100 in week 22. Thereafter, salmon catch ranged from 9 (week 23) to zero (3 weeks) through week 40 (ending 4 October 1997).

Juvenile salmon emigration occurred in three phases as represented by the modes in the catch and catch-rate distributions described above (Figures 6 and 7). This relationship was also observed during 1995 (Snider and Titus, 1998). The first phase represents the initiation of emigration and is strongly linked to the initial flow increase of the season (Figure 7). Characteristic of this phase is the relatively high proportion of late-fall-, winter- and spring-run chinook salmon in the catch. The relative frequency of young-of-the-year spring run and fall run in this phase could be dependent upon timing of the first flow increase; i.e., the later the occurrence, the more spring-run and fall-run fry available for emigration.

During the 1996–1997 emigration period, the first phase began during week 46 (10–16 November 1996) and lasted through week 52 (22–28 December 1996) (Figures 6 and 7). The mode representing this phase peaked during week 50 (8–14 December 1996). Although the catch during this phase was the lowest in magnitude, it was the highest in salmon race diversity. Most (89%) in-river-produced late-fall-run yearling migration, 51% of brood year (BY) 1996 in-river-produced winter-run migration, 72% of all spring-run migration, but only 6% of fall-run migration occurred during this phase.

The second phase in emigration appears associated with a substantially greater increase in flow and an increase in the availability of fall-run fry. It is possible that if the first increase in flow occurs late enough, or if the first major flow occurs early enough, phases 1 and 2 would be indistinguishable. In 1996–1997, phase 2 appeared to overlap phase 1 as a substantial flow increase and a corresponding jump in fry migration occurred early, in week 50 (Figures 7 and 8). Phase 2 extended from week 50 through week 14 (8 December 1996–5 April 1997). Altogether, 51% of the total fall-run catch occurred during this phase. Catches during this phase appeared strongly associated with flow. The first two peaks (week 50 of 1996 and week 1 of 1997) were coincident with increasing flows, and a third peak (weeks 10 and 11) was coincident with a substantial drop in flow (Figure 7). The latter peak may have been due to a decrease in the proportion of flow being diverted into the Sutter Bypass, upstream of Knights Landing, resulting

Table 2.

Weekly summary of catch statistics for chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Effort (h)	Total catch	Catch/h	Size statistics (FL in mm)			
				Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard deviation
40	347	0	0	-	-	-	-
41	327.5	0	0	-	-	-	-
42	336.5	0	0	-	-	-	-
43	345	0	0	-	-	-	-
44	327.5	0	0	-	-	-	-
45	343.5	0	0	-	-	-	-
46	374.5	1	0.003	141	141	141	0
47	324.75	2	0.01	137	115	159	31.1
48	228.75	47	0.20	76.1	30	128	25.2
49	337	0	0	-	-	-	-
50	330.5	2,798	8.47	41	28	150	19.4
51	345	1,727	5.01	36.5	28	156	9.1
52	279.5	271	0.97	36.7	28	112	6.1
1	290.75	4,949	17.02	36.4	29	145	3.5
2	338	2,833	8.38	36	28	130	4.4
3	336.25	2,204	6.55	38.7	29	170	13.4
4	297.75	1,222	4.10	43.5	28	217	25.4
5	336	1,418	4.22	38.7	30	155	10.4
6	336	1,210	3.60	40.1	31	150	8.5
7	336	1,397	4.16	42	31	154	9.3
8	336	1,399	4.16	45.3	30	141	9.2
9	335.5	1,067	3.18	50.39	32	145	10.7
10	336.5	2,982	8.86	50	33	167	6.9
11	334.5	3,170	9.48	51.4	36	130	7.7
12	334	1,104	3.30	52	34	119	7.2
13	335.5	158	0.47	57.8	32	105	9.8
14	337	94	0.28	66.2	48	94	7.4
15	337.5	3,470	10.28	77	53	131	5.2
16	334.5	3,052	9.12	77.8	48	127	5.2
17	334.5	4,363	13.04	79.6	57	138	5.7
18	333	7,948	23.87	79.5	62	144	5.4
19	340	1,329	3.91	82.5	69	141	5.4
20	320.25	960	3.00	79	56	104	5.5

Table 2 (continued)

Week	Effort (h)	Total catch	Catch/h	Size statistics (FL in mm)			
				Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard deviation
21	289.5	124	0.43	84.3	60	104	6.8
22	334.5	8	0.02	84.4	51	95	14.5
23	338	9	0.03	80	48	92	16.1
24	337	1	0.003	93	93	93	0
25	335.5	4	0.01	57.5	33	92	26.21
26	334.5	2	0.01	88	70	106	25.46
27	288.75	1	0.003	67	67	67	0
28	384.75	0	0	-	-	-	-
29	3370.25	0	0	-	-	-	-
30	333.25	2	0.01	81.5	78	85	4.95
31	334.25	1	0.003	75	75	75	0
32	339	1	0.003	84	84	84	0
33	337.75	2	0.01	74	68	80	8.49
34	335.25	3	0.01	66.3	37	89	26.63
35	336.25	2	0.01	107	107	107	0
36	337	3	0.01	93	91	95	2.83
37	336.5	1	0.003	39	39	39	0
38	327.25	2	0.01	36	34	38	2.83
39	336.75	0	0	-	-	-	-
40	334	1	0.003	38	38	38	0
Total	17,533.5	51,347	2.93				



in a higher proportion of emigrants moving down the Sacramento River via Knights Landing rather than into the Sutter Bypass.

The third phase was strongly associated with releases of large numbers of hatchery-produced fall-run from CNFH into the upper Sacramento River. In 1997, the third phase began during week 15, one week after the first release of fingerling-sized, CNFH-produced fall run was made (Table 3).

Size of salmon captured by RST ranged from 28 to 217 mm FL (Table 2, Figure 8). Large salmon (>90 mm FL) were captured during every week between week 46 (10–16 November 1996) and week 26 (22–28 June 1997) with several large salmon caught as late as week 36 (31 August–6 September 1997) (Table 2, Figures 8–20). Recently emerged-sized salmon (<45 mm FL) were also captured every week from week 48 of 1996 through week 13, and in weeks 25, 34, 37, 38 and 40 of 1997.

Table 3. Summary of juvenile chinook salmon produced at Coleman National Fish Hatchery and released into the Sacramento River system upstream of Knights Landing, including run, number marked with an adipose-fin clip (with and without coded-wire tags [CWTs]), and release date and location.

Chinook salmon run	Week of release (Date)	Number marked w/CWT	Number marked w/o CWT	Number unmarked	Release location (RM) <sup>1/</sup>
Late-fall run	45 (7 Nov 1996)	121,056	6,404	0	CNFH (271.5)
Late-fall run	50 (10 Dec 1996)	118,059	4,956	0	CNFH (271.5)
Late-fall run	2 (9 Jan 1997)	121,231	6,317	0	CNFH (271.5)
Late-fall run	3 (16/17 Jan 1997)	501,687	46,878	0	CNFH (271.5)
Winter run	5 (30 Jan 1997)	2,294	71	0	CP (298)
Winter run	11 (12 Mar 1997)	2,259	94	0	CP (298)
Fall run fry	7 (13 Feb 1997)	0	0	1,972,634	HR (235)
Fall run fry	11 (12 Mar 1997)	0	0	6,013,529	BRBR (240)
Fall run	14 (1 Apr 1997)	288,499	36,478	3,618,122	CNFH (271.5)
Fall run	15 (9 Apr 1997)	97,230	4,093	1,948,233	CNFH (271.5)
Fall run	16 (15/16 Apr 1997)	444,034	22,868	4,800,757	CNFH (271.5)
Fall run	19 (6 May 1997)	104,099	4,714	1,072,848	CNFH (271.5)
Steelhead	3,4 (7–15 Jan)	0	0	540,287	Balls Ferry (276)

<sup>1/</sup> CNFH = Coleman National Fish Hatchery; CP = Caldwell Park; HR = Hunters Resort; BRBR = Bow River Boat Ramp.

### Late-Fall-Run-Sized Chinook Salmon

All late-fall run released from CNFH were marked. As such, we considered all unmarked late-fall-run-sized chinook salmon to have been produced in-river. The first in-river-produced late-fall-run chinook salmon was caught during week 46 (Table 4, Figure 21). Altogether, 54 in-river-produced late-fall-run juveniles from BY 1996 were collected from week 46 (10–16 November 1996) through week 4 (19–25 January 1997). The highest catches occurred during week 50 ( $n = 34$ ). These fish ranged from 90 to 170 mm FL (Table 4). Five in-river-produced late-fall-run juveniles from BY 1997 were also collected from week 23 (1–7 June 1997) through week 34 (17–23 August 1997) (Figure 21). These fish ranged from 33 to 73 mm FL (Table 4).

We collected 169 marked late-fall run (Table 5). These fish were collected from week 47 (17–23 November 1996) through week 16 (13–19 April 1997) (Figure 22). Relatively high catches occurred during weeks 50 ( $n = 20$ ), 3 ( $n = 33$ ), and 4 ( $n = 61$ ). Ninety-five of the 168 marked fish were late-fall-run sized (BY 1996) of which 90 had CWTs that identified them as late-fall run from CNFH. (Five marked, late-fall-run-sized salmon without CWTs were also classified as late-fall run from CNFH). CWT data also revealed that an additional 60 of these marked fish were classified by size as winter run, but actually were late-fall run from CNFH. One marked spring-run-sized fish was similarly identified as a late-fall run. We also classified nine marked winter-run-sized salmon without CWTs as late-fall run based upon the proportion of marked winter-run-sized salmon bearing CWTs that were actually CNFH late-fall run (60 out of 60). Finally, four marked, unmeasured fish were identified by CWTs as late-fall run.

A total of 926,588 late-fall run produced at CNFH were marked, tagged with CWTs and released into Battle Creek, approximately 180 miles upstream of Knights Landing. Of these, an estimated 64,555 were marked but either shed or otherwise did not have a CWT when released. Four releases consisting of 15 distinct tag groups were made over a period of 11 weeks between 7 November 1996 and 17 January 1997 (Table 3). Each tag group was comparable in size. We captured 16 (0.013%) fish from the first release (7 November 1996), 15 (0.013%) from the second (released 10 December 1996), 42 (0.035% total) from those released on 9 January 1997, and 82 (0.016%) from the last release (16–17 January 1997) (Table 5, Figure 22). Fish from the first release were collected at Knights Landing from 16 to 36 days after their release (mean = 31 days); fish from the second release were collected from 3 to 74 days later (mean = 16 days); fish from the third release were collected 3 to 100 days later (mean = 14 days); and fish from the last group were collected 3 to 89 days later (mean = 15 days).

### Winter-Run-Sized Chinook Salmon

As with late-fall, all winter run released from CNFH were marked and all unmarked winter-run-sized salmon were considered to have been produced in-river. A total of 250 in-river-produced winter-run chinook salmon from BY 1996 was collected from week 48 through week 19 (24 November 1996–10 May 1997) (Table 4, Figure 21). Eleven percent of the in-river-produced

winter-run catch occurred in November, 40% in December, 17% in January, 14% in February, 14% in March, 3% in April, and 1% in May. Winter run from BY 1996 ranged in size from 61 to 104 mm FL.

We observed three peaks in catches of in-river-produced winter run during the first two phases of emigration discussed above (Table 4, Figure 21). Winter-run catch first peaked in week 50 then declined to a low in week 1 (phase 1). Catch peaked again in week 3 then gradually declined before peaking a third time during week 9 (phase 2). The third peak occurred after flow decreased in the system, reducing diversions to the Sutter Bypass and likely increasing the proportion of salmon migrating past Knights Landing, as discussed above. Weekly catches were relatively constant during phase 2, and ranged from 7 to 15 winter run during the first 10 weeks of this phase before declining to #3 during the last 3 weeks. More than 50% of in-river-produced winter run were captured during phase 1 coincident with the first major increase in flow. Some 47% were captured during phase 2, in association with increased flow and a large number of fall-run emigrants. Only 3% were captured during phase 3. Migration of BY 1996 winter run ended in week 19, immediately following the peak of overall migration during phase 3.

Five winter run from BY 1997 were caught following the primary emigration period, after week 33 (17 August–4 October 1997) (Table 4, Figure 21). These fish ranged from 34 to 39 mm FL.

We captured 69 marked, winter-run-sized salmon. Of these, none were confirmed by CWT to be winter run released from CNFH. As discussed above, 60 of the 69 were identified by CWT as late-fall run from CNFH. Nine did not have a CWT. Based upon the proportion of late-fall to winter run for fish with CWTs, we estimated that none of the fish without tags were winter run. Two marked, fall-run-sized fish were identified by CWT as winter run (Table 5).

Only 4,553 marked and tagged (165 marked without tags) winter run were released into the upper Sacramento River during 1996–1997 (Table 3). Two separate releases were made, one on 30 January 1997 (2,294) and one on 12 March 1997 (2,259). We collected 2 (0.04%) tagged winter run, both from the second release group, one on 11 April (31 days later) and one on 29 April 1997 (49 days later) (Table 5, Figure 22). These fish were 69 and 81 mm FL, respectively.

### Spring-Run-Sized Chinook Salmon

No hatchery-produced spring-run chinook salmon were released upstream of Knights Landing. Several thousand wild, spring-run juveniles caught in Butte Creek were marked and released back into Butte Creek. Butte Creek enters the upper portion of the Sutter Bypass and, depending upon flow conditions, the marked fish released into Butte Creek could have entered either the Sacramento River upstream of Knights Landing or the bypass. All unmarked spring-run-sized chinook salmon captured through week 14 (5 April 1997) were considered in-river-produced spring run. Beginning in week 15, all spring-run-sized salmon were considered CNFH-produced fall-run juveniles based upon the following information:

Table 4. Summary of catch and size range data for in-river-produced<sup>1/</sup> chinook salmon (by run) caught by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Fall run <sup>2/</sup>		Spring run <sup>3/</sup>		Winter run		Late-fall run	
	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range
40	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
41	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
42	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
43	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
44	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
45	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
46	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	141
47	1	159	0	-	0	-	0	-
48	0	-	8	30–38	27	61–87	9	90–128
49	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
50	1,564	28–35	1,101	34.5–40	79	60.5–98	34	94–145
51	1,159	28–37	541	34–44	20	63–98	3	101–138
52	250	28–39	18	38–41	2	68–89	1	112
1	4,879	29–40	67	40–52	1	102	0	-
2	2,799	28–42	26	42–55	7	87–110	1	130
3	2,114	29–44	38	44–56	15	60–121	4	122–170
4	1,142	28–46	7	46–50	11	77–124	1	150
5	1,387	30–48	12	49–59	10	82–126	0	-
6	1,192	31–49	6	51–64	7	93–118	0	-
7	1,380	31–53	4	55–62	8	93–135	0	-
8	1,352	30–56	31	55–73	8	83–141	0	-
9	935	32–58	110	58–78	15	78–120	0	-
10	2,827	33–62	139	61–84	13	85–110	0	-
11	3,013	36–64	143	63–86	12	85–130	0	-
12	1,068	34–67	32	68–90	3	92–119	0	-
13	148	32–71	7	72–87	2	105	0	-
14	79	48–73	15	72–94	0	-	0	-
15	1,695	53–88	1,619	76–90	1	131	0	-
16	2,210	48–82	717	61–91	2	115–127	0	-
17	3,600	57–86	625	83–99	3	125–138	0	-

Table 4 (continued)

Week	Fall run <sup>2/</sup>		Spring run <sup>3/</sup>		Winter run		Late-fall run	
	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range
18	7,255 <sup>4/</sup>	62–90	366	87–103	2	128–144	0	-
19	1,215	69–93	44	91–99	2	131–141	0	-
20	872	56–95	9	95–104	0	-	0	-
21	119	60–99	1	104	0	-	0	-
22	7	51–95	0	-	0	-	0	-
23	8	57–92	0	-	0	-	1	48
24	1	93	0	-	0	-	0	-
25	2	63–92	0	-	0	-	2	33–42
26	2	70–106	0	-	0	-	0	-
27	1	67	0	-	0	-	0	-
28	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
29	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
30	2	78–85	0	-	0	-	0	-
31	1	75	0	-	0	-	0	-
32	1	84	0	-	0	-	0	-
33	1	80	0	-	0	-	1	68
34	1	89	0	-	1	37	1	73
35	2	107 <sup>5/</sup>	0	-	0	-	0	-
36	3	91–95	0	-	0	-	0	-
37	0	-	0	-	1	39	0	-
38	0	-	0	-	2	34–38	0	-
39	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
40	0	-	0	-	1	38	0	-
Total	44,287	28–159	2,305 <sup>3/</sup> 3,381 <sup>6/</sup>	30–94 61–104	250 <sup>7/</sup> 5 <sup>8/</sup>	60.5–144 34–38	54 <sup>7/</sup> 5 <sup>8/</sup>	90–170 33–73

<sup>1/</sup> Unmarked salmon were considered in-river-produced fish except as noted below.

<sup>2/</sup> A large portion of the fall run listed in this table were likely of hatchery origin since in-river- and hatchery-produced fall run could not be distinguished (see text).

<sup>3/</sup> All spring-run-sized fish collected after week 14 were considered fall run based upon CWT data and size distributions of fall run released from CNFH (see text).

<sup>4/</sup> Includes one marked salmon, CWT code 05-01-01-15-11, that was tagged as a wild fish and released at Red Bluff Diversion Dam.

<sup>5/</sup> One fish was unmeasurable.

<sup>6/</sup> Total captured after week 14, considered CNFH-produced fall run.

<sup>7/</sup> BY 1996

<sup>8/</sup> BY 1997

Table 5. Summary of catch and size range data for marked, hatchery-produced chinook salmon (by run) caught by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Fall run		Winter run		Late-fall run	
	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range
40–46	No marked salmon were caught weeks 40 through 46					
47	0	-	0	-	1	115
48	0	-	0	-	3	97–127
49	0	-	0	-	0	-
50	0	-	0	-	20	89–150
51	0	-	0	-	4	131–156
52	0	-	0	-	0	-
1	0	-	0	-	2	137–145
2	0	-	0	-	0	-
3	0	-	0	-	33	101–144
4	0	-	0	-	61	111–217
5	0	-	0	-	9	93–155
6	0	-	0	-	5	97–150
7	0	-	0	-	5	106–154
8	0	-	0	-	8	100–134
9	0	-	0	-	7	90–129
10	0	-	0	-	3	112–167
11	0	-	0	-	2	100–112
12	0	-	0	-	1	105
13	0	-	0	-	1	87
14	0	-	0	-	0	-
15	153	67–87	1	69	1	119
16	121	72–89	0	-	2	110–123
17	135	67–91	0	-	0	-
18	324	65–95	1	81	0	-
19	68	72–95	0	-	0	-
20	79	68–96	0	-	0	-
21	4	76–86	0	-	0	-
22	1	95	0	-	0	-
Unknown	4 <sup>1/</sup>	-	0	-	1	-
Total	889 <sup>2/</sup>	65–96	2	69–81	169 <sup>3/</sup>	87–217

<sup>1/</sup> Week of recapture and FL were not recorded. Race based upon CWT information.

<sup>2/</sup> Seventy-six marked salmon did not contain CWTs or the tags were lost before being read, but were designated as fall run based on their FL and date of recapture relative to hatchery releases.

<sup>3/</sup> Fourteen marked salmon did not contain CWTs or the tags were lost before being read, but were designated as late-fall run based on their FL and date of recapture relative to hatchery releases.

- A substantial increase in the catch of spring-run-sized salmon began in week 15 ( $n = 89$ ) concurrent with the arrival of marked, hatchery-produced fall run released into the upper river during week 14 (Table 5).
- Many of the fall run measured just prior to their release during week 14 were spring-run sized.

Unmarked spring-run chinook salmon first appeared in the RSTs in week 48 during emigration phase 1, and were captured during every week through week 14, except week 49 (Table 4, Figure 21). A total of 2,305 in-river-produced spring run was collected. Catch distribution had two modes corresponding to emigration phases 1 and 2. The first peak occurred during week 50 ( $n = 1,101$ ), coincident with the first major flow increase of the season. The second but smaller peak began in week 9 and continued through week 11 (combined  $n = 392$ ) when flow in the system decreased sharply (Figure 4), reducing diversions to the Sutter Bypass and likely increasing the proportion of salmon migrating past Knights Landing, as discussed earlier.

Unmarked spring run collected before week 15 ranged in size from 30 to 94 mm FL. More than 65% of these salmon were recently emerged-sized salmon and were essentially just a few millimeters larger than the maximum fall-run size criteria for the date of capture.

A total of 159 marked, spring-run-sized salmon was caught by RST, all after week 14. Nineteen of these fish did not contain a CWT but were considered fall run based upon time and size at capture. The remaining 140 were identified as fall run based upon CWT information.

### Fall-Run-Sized Chinook Salmon

Fall-run-sized chinook clearly dominated the catch of in-river-produced juvenile salmon in the RSTs. Altogether, 44,287 fall-run-sized salmon were collected (Table 4). An additional 3,381 marked, spring-run-sized salmon were also actually fall run, as discussed above. The first fall run captured was a yearling (159 mm FL) caught during week 47. Fall run from BY 1996 were first collected during week 50, and then in every subsequent week through week 27 (8 December 1996–5 July 1997) (Table 4, Figure 21). Eleven fall run were also collected from week 30 through week 36 (20 July–6 September 1997).

The catch distribution exhibited several peaks consistent with the emigration phases discussed above (Table 4, Figures 4 and 21). The first weekly peak ( $n = 1,564$ ) occurred in week 50 during the initial flow increase event of the season (emigration phase 1). The next peak occurred during weeks 1–3 (combined  $n = 9,792$ ) at the top of the seasonal hydrograph (emigration phase 2). A second peak during emigration phase 2 occurred during weeks 10–11 (combined  $n = 5,840$ ) in association with reduced flow diversion to Sutter Bypass and upswing in water temperature (Tables 1 and 4, Figures 3 and 21). The highest weekly peak catch ( $n = 7,255$ ) occurred in week 18 during emigration phase 3 and was coincident with the arrival of known (based on CWT data) hatchery-reared-fall run released from CNFH (Figures 21 and 22).

Distinction between in-river- and hatchery-produced fall run was problematic after week 7 when nearly two million hatchery-reared fall-run fry were released into the upper Sacramento River (Table 3). A second release of more than six million fry was made during week 11 (Table 3). These unmarked fish were indistinguishable from in-river-produced fall run. As such, all fall-run-sized salmon caught at Knights Landing prior to week 8 were known in-river-produced salmon, but were of unknown origin after week 7.

Beginning in week 14, ~ 8% of the fall run released into the upper river were marked. Four releases totaling over 12.4 million fall-run chinook salmon from CNFH were made into Battle Creek, near RM 271.5, during week 14 (1 April 1997), week 15 (9 April 1997), week 16 (15–16 April 1997) and week 19 (6 May 1997). A representative group from each plant was measured just prior to planting. Comparison of size distribution of fish from each plant with salmon collected at Knights Landing indicates that a large portion of salmon caught from weeks 15 through 21 were likely from CNFH (Appendix Figures 2–4).

A total of 709 marked, fall-run-sized salmon was caught by RST: 650 contained tags that identified them as fall run, two contained tags that identified them as winter run, and 57 did not have tags but were considered fall run. In addition, 140 marked, spring-run-sized salmon contained tags that identified them as fall run. Nineteen marked, spring-run-sized salmon without CWTs were also classified as fall run. We also collected 23 marked fish that were not measured, but had CWTs that identified them as fall run. Altogether, 889 marked fall run were collected.

Based upon CWT information, fall run from the first release into Battle Creek arrived at Knights Landing during week 15 (Table 5, Figure 22). From week 15 through week 22, when the last marked salmon was caught, the 889 marked fall run, in addition to 20,354 unmarked fall run (including 3,381 spring-run-sized salmon that were classified as CNFH-produced fall run), were collected (Tables 4 and 5, Figures 21 and 22). The marked fish accounted for 4.2% of all fall run collected during weeks 15–22 compared to ~8% of all hatchery-released fall run. Assuming that survival of hatchery-produced fall run to Knights Landing was independent of tagging, about 52% of the fish caught at Knights Landing after week 14 were from CNFH.

Altogether, based on CWT data, we captured 294 (0.10%) fish from the first release, 79 (0.08%) from the second release, 368 (0.08%) from the third release, and 67 (0.06%) from the last release. Fish from the first release were collected at Knights Landing 6 to 41 days after release (mean = 15 days); fish from the second release were collected 7 to 31 days after release (mean = 16 days); fish from the third release were collected 5 to 31 days after release (mean = 14 days); and fish from the last group were collected 4 to 13 days release (mean = 7 days).

Fall run from BY 1996 ranged in size from 28 to 107 mm FL (Table 4). More than 49% of fall run were recently emerged-sized fish (<45 mm FL). Recently emerged-sized salmon were collected from week 50 of 1996 through week 13 of 1997 (Table 4, Figure 8). Smolt-sized fall run (>70 mm FL) were collected from week 13 essentially through week 36.



## **Steelhead Trout Emigration**

Steelhead trout captured in the RSTs represented possibly four age groups: young-of-year (<100 mm FL), yearlings (100-300 mm FL), and trout >300 mm FL that were likely a combination of two-year-old smolts and adults. Scales collected from fish >100 mm FL will be analyzed and should help further define these groups. Although more than 500,000 hatchery-produced steelhead were released from CNFH, none of these fish was marked.

### Adult Steelhead

Ten adult-sized steelhead (>300 mm FL) were collected from week 4 through week 26 of 1997 (Table 6). These fish ranged from 306 to 549 mm FL, and averaged 390 mm FL. There was no apparent pattern in migration although all steelhead were collected concurrent with peaks in yearling steelhead migration (see below).

### Yearling Steelhead

We collected 156 yearling-sized steelhead from week 3 through week 21 of 1997 (12 January–24 May 1997) (Table 6, Figure 23). Ten percent of yearling steelhead were caught in January, 41% in February, 17% in March, 22% in April, and 10% in May. Yearling steelhead ranged from 117 to 295 mm FL, and averaged 224 mm FL. There was no apparent trend in size versus time of capture (Figures 24–29).

There appeared to be two modes in catch distribution (Figure 23). The first mode extended from week 3 through week 15 and started at the peak of the seasonal hydrograph (Figure 4), rather than with the first flow increase associated with emigration phase 1 for salmon. The first mode peaked during weeks 7–9, following releases of steelhead smolts from CNFH in weeks 3 and 4 (Table 3), and in association with reduced flow diversion to Sutter Bypass (Sacramento River flow dropping below 23,000 cfs; Figure 4).

The second mode extended from week 16 through week 21, and peaked during weeks 17 and 18. This mode was coincident with the first three releases of fall-run salmon from CNFH in weeks 14–16 (Table 3), and the peak occurred in association with the bottom of the spring 1997 hydrograph (Figure 4).

Table 6. Summary of catch statistics for steelhead trout caught by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Catch Statistics					
	Young-of-year		Yearling (unmarked)		Adult	
	Count	Mean FL (mm) (range)	Count	Mean FL (mm) (range)	Count	Mean FL (mm) (range)
40–2	No steelhead caught weeks 40 through 2					
3	0		3	170 (155–190)	0	
4	0		8	215 (181–240)	1	306
5	0		4	246 (214–295)	1	310
6	0		9	222 (206–248)	0	
7	0		17	216 (188–268)	0	
8	0		18	225 (195–275)	0	
9	0		23	220 (117–287)	2	500 (452–549)
10	0		5	225 (202–246)	0	
11	0		4	222 (205–250)	0	
12	0		8	233 (200–260)	0	
13	0		5	238 (196–270)	1	357
14	0		3	232 (220–238)	0	
15	0		1	285	0	
16	0		1	224	0	
17	0		16 <sup>1/</sup>	230 (182–265)	2	390 (345–434)
18	0		18	223 (193–262)	0	
19	0		5	219 (195–255)	1	410
20	0		7	208 (189–224)	1	395
21	0		1	229	0	
22–25	No steelhead caught weeks 22 through 25					
26	0		0		1	340
27	0		0		0	
28	1	97	0		0	
29–40	No steelhead caught weeks 29 through 40					
Total	1	97	156	224 (117–295)	10	390 (306–549)

<sup>1/</sup> Includes one steelhead that was tallied but not measured.

## Fyke Net Results

### Chinook Salmon

During weeks 13–27, 1,498 salmon were collected in 5,571 h (overall, 0.27 fish/h; Table 7). The catch generally increased from one salmon in week 14 (0.004 fish/h) to 690 in week 18 (1.37 fish/h), then decreased to zero in week 24 (Table 7). Unmarked, fyke-caught chinook salmon ranged in size from 49 to 122 mm FL (Table 8).

Fall-run juvenile salmon dominated the fyke net catches. A total of 1,258 unmarked fall run was captured (Table 8, Figure 30), comprising 84% of all fyke-caught salmon. One spring-run-sized salmon was caught in week 13. All other spring-run-sized salmon ( $n = 164$ ) were caught after week 14 and were considered CNFH-produced fall run, as discussed earlier. One winter-run-sized salmon was also caught by fyke net in week 15.

Seventy-four marked chinook salmon were also caught in the fyke nets (Table 9). All of the marked salmon were CNFH fall run. Marked fall run were captured during weeks 15–20. The majority (55%) of these fish was captured during week 18 ( $n = 41$ ). The size of marked fish ranged from 62–89 mm FL (Table 9).

### Steelhead

Four yearling-sized steelhead were collected by fyke net (Table 10). One was caught during week 14, two in week 16, and one in week 17. The size range for fyke-caught steelhead ranged from 220–284 mm FL (Table 10).

## RST versus Fyke Net

The RSTs collected substantially more salmonids than the fykes during the period when both gears were fishing (weeks 13–27), although the trends in catch timing and composition were similar with both gears. The relative distributions in catches were nearly identical (Figure 31). Catches with both gears peaked during week 18, and the changes in relative abundance were the same, except for minor differences between weeks 19 and 20. Similarly, unmarked fall run dominated both traps, comprising 83% of the RST salmon catch and 84% of the fyke catch. Spring run comprised 0.1% of the RST catch and 0.07% of the fyke catch; spring-run-sized CNFH fall run comprised 16% of the RST catch and 12% of the fyke catch; and winter run comprised 0.06% of the RST catch and 0.07% of the fyke catch. Marked salmon comprised 4.1% of the RST catch and 4.9% of the fyke catch. Steelhead comprised 0.26% of both catches. The ratios of RST:fyke net caught fish were about 7:1 for all salmon, 9:1 for steelhead, 7:1 for fall run, 8:1 for winter run, and 5:1 for spring run.

Table 7. Summary of catch statistics for chinook salmon caught by fyke nets in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Effort (h)	Total catch	Catch/h	Size Statistics (FL in mm)			
				Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard deviation
40–12	Fyke nets were deployed 26 March 1997 (week 13)						
13	72.50	3	0.04	60.7	49	78	13.3
14	281.75	1	0.004	64.0	64	64	0
15	345.75	156	0.45	76.3	57	122	6.9
16	297.00	125	0.42	77.0	64	88	4.2
17	460.00	301	0.65	79.3	65	95	4.7
18	504.00	690	1.37	78.8	64	94	4.8
19	500.50	77	0.15	82.6	64	103	5.9
20	443.75	123	0.28	77.6	66	95	5.1
21	433.25	20	0.05	84.8	78	91	4.4
22	501.50	1	0.002	86.0	86	86	0
23	505.75	1	0.002	86.0	86	86	0
24	409.25	0	0	-	-	-	-
25	336.75	0	0	-	-	-	-
26	333.75	0	0	-	-	-	-
27	146.00	0	0	-	-	-	-
Total	5,571.50	1,498	0.27				

Table 8. Summary of catch and size range data for unmarked chinook salmon (by run) caught by fyke nets in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September–4 October 1997.

Week	Fall run		Spring run <sup>1/</sup>		Winter run		Late-fall run	
	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range
40–12	Fyke nets not deployed until 26 March 1997 (week 13)							
13	2	49–55	1	78	0	-	0	-
14	1	64	0	-	0	-	0	-
15	76	57–78	73	77–88	1	122	0	-
16	91	64–81	28	79–88	0	-	0	-
17	252	65–85	38	83–95	0	-	0	-
18	628	73–89	21	87–94	0	-	0	-
19	71	64–92	4	92–103	0	-	0	-
20	115	66–95	0	-	0	-	0	-
21	20	78–91	0	-	0	-	0	-
22	1	86	0	-	0	-	0	-
23	1	86	0	-	0	-	0	-
24–27	No salmon were caught in fyke nets after week 23							
Total	1,258	49–95	165	77–103	1	122	0	-

<sup>1/</sup> All spring-run-sized fish collected after week 14 were considered fall run based upon CWT data and size distributions of fall run released from CNFH (see text).

Table 9. Summary of catch and size range data for marked, hatchery-produced chinook salmon (by run) caught by fyke nets in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September–4 October 1997.

Week	Fall run		Winter run		Late-fall run	
	Number	FL range	Number	FL range	Number	FL range
40–12	Fyke nets were deployed 26 March 1997 (week 13)					
13	0	-	0	-	0	-
14	0	-	0	-	0	-
15	6	62–82	0	-	0	-
16	6	75–80	0	-	0	-
17	11	73–86	0	-	0	-
18	41 <sup>1/</sup>	73–89	0	-	0	-
19	2	80–87	0	-	0	-
20	8	67–80	0	-	0	-
21–27	No marked salmon caught after Week 20					
Total	74	62–89	0	-	0	-

<sup>1/</sup> Includes 25 marked salmon that were tallied but not collected.

Table 10. Summary of catch statistics for steelhead trout caught by fyke nets in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September–4 October 1997.

Week	Catch Statistics					
	Young-of-year		Yearling (unmarked)		Adult	
	Count	Mean FL (mm) (range)	Count	Mean FL (mm) (range)	Count	Mean FL (mm) (range)
40–12	Fyke nets were deployed 26 March 1997 (week 13)					
13	0	-	0	-	0	-
14	0	-	1	284	0	-
15	0	-	0	-	0	-
16	0	-	2	230 (220–240)	0	-
17	0	-	1	228	0	-
18–27	No steelhead caught weeks 18 through 27					
Total	0	-	4	243 (220–284)	0	-

## Gear Efficiency Using Mark-Recapture

Salmon were marked for efficiency evaluations beginning in week 48 (Table 11), although sufficient numbers (>100/week) of fish were not available for marking until week 50. A total of 22,533 chinook salmon was marked from week 48 through week 19<sup>6</sup>. Overall, 276 (1.22%) salmon were recaptured. The percent recaptured, by week, ranged from 0% during week 50 to 5.40% during week 5. The mean trap efficiency during 17 weeks of evaluation was 1.45% (SD = 1.19%).

The size distributions of marked and recaptured salmon were compared for size-selectivity by the RSTs. Comparison of length-frequency distributions (Figure 32) suggested that the recapture group was slightly negatively biased. Overall, marked salmon averaged ( $\pm$ SD) 55.7 ( $\pm$ 18.0) mm FL while recaptured salmon averaged 51.2 ( $\pm$ 16.9) mm FL (Mann–Whitney  $W$  test,  $p < 0.0001$ ). Thirty-four percent of the marked population, but only 24% of the recaptured population, were between 70 and 100 mm FL (Figure 32). In a progressive analysis comparing the medians of the two groups with an upper length limit beginning at 70 mm FL and decreasing in 5 mm increments, it was not until only salmon <55 mm FL were compared that their medians did not differ (Mann–Whitney  $W$  test,  $p > 0.05$ ).

Yearling-sized steelhead were also marked for efficiency beginning in week 3. A total of 148 steelhead were marked and two were recaptured (1.36%), which was in good agreement with the mean trap efficiency for salmon (1.45%).

There were no significant correlations between weekly trap efficiency and the number of fish marked per week ( $R = -0.34$ ,  $p = 0.18$ ), number of fish caught per week ( $R = -0.30$ ,  $p = 0.24$ ), mean weekly flow ( $R = 0.41$ ,  $p = 0.10$ ), mean weekly water transparency ( $R = -0.21$ ,  $p = 0.41$ ), or mean weekly water temperature ( $R = -0.29$ ,  $p = 0.25$ ). Because trap efficiency varied independently of any measured factor, and to allow for determination of confidence intervals using standard statistical methods (e.g. Zar 1984), abundance estimates were calculated using the mean of weekly trap efficiency estimates (see below).

## Relative Abundance Estimates

A primary objective of monitoring at Knights Landing is to make an abundance estimate for juvenile salmonids emigrating from the upper Sacramento River system into the lower river and Delta. Mean weekly trap efficiency (0.0145) and associated 80% confidence interval (0.0106–0.0183) were used to estimate the abundance of each salmon run and steelhead. Both the in-river and hatchery-produced portions of each group were estimated. Estimates of hatchery-produced juveniles were made only for groups containing marked fish. Thus, no attempt was

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<sup>6</sup> Inconsistency in mark recognition precluded accurate gear efficiency tests during weeks 1–4. Therefore, those weeks were not included in our evaluation.

made to determine the number of salmon captured at Knights Landing that came from the eight million unmarked fall-run fry planted in February and March 1997.

In order to estimate the number of fish that passed Knights Landing during the entire emigration period, including those few weeks when trapping effort was less than 100%, we expanded the total catch of each species and race to represent 100% effort. The weekly catch was estimated for those weeks when trapping effort was less than 100% by expanding the catch in proportion to the percentage of actual effort (e.g., if effort was 80% the estimate was made by dividing the actual catch by 0.8). The catch of unmarked fish was increased by 1,103 for fall run, 19 for spring run, 16 for winter run, 5 for late-fall and 12 for steelhead. The marked catch was increased by 3 for fall run and 8 for late-fall run. These numbers were added to the actual counts and used in the calculation of the total estimates (Tables 12 and 13).

The estimated number of marked and unmarked hatchery-produced fish was determined as shown in Table 12. Estimated survival to Knights Landing of hatchery salmonids by run/species ranged from 1.3% to 6.1%.

In-river produced fish were estimated by subtracting the estimated hatchery-produced component passing Knights Landing (results from Table 12), by cohort, from the estimated total abundance of each cohort moving past the site (Table 13). Overall, an estimated 3.6 million chinook salmon (80% CI, 2.9 million–4.9 million) emigrated past Knights Landing into the lower Sacramento River and Delta. About 79% of those were estimated to have been produced in-river. An estimated 11,586 yearling steelhead (80% CI, ~9,200–15,800) emigrated past Knights Landing. Because BY 1996 steelhead from CNFH were not marked, we could not estimate relative proportions of hatchery- and in-river-produced steelhead moving past Knights Landing.

Emigration from the upper Sacramento River system to the Delta is exclusively through Knights Landing until flow increases require diversion through the Sutter Bypass, upstream of Knights Landing. Typically, diversion to the bypass occurs when flow exceeds about 23,000 cfs (California Department of Water Resources, Division of Flood Management, pers. comm., 14 July 1998). During 1996–1997, flow exceeded 23,000 cfs from week 50 of 1996 through week 7 of 1997 when nearly 40% of the catch occurred at Knights Landing. Since the proportion of juvenile salmonids that emigrates through the bypass is unknown, the magnitude of salmonids emigrating to the Delta cannot be estimated by just using Knights Landing results. However, the temporal distribution and, likely, the relative abundance of juvenile salmonids migrating toward the Delta are reflected in the Knights Landing results.



Table 11. Summary of capture efficiency test results for chinook salmon collected by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996–4 October 1997.

Week	Number Marked	Number Recovered	Efficiency (%)	Week	Number Marked	Number Recovered	Efficiency (%)
40–47	No chinook salmon marked			10	2,262	10	0.44
48	9	0	-. <sup>1</sup>	11	2,496	49	1.96
49	0	0	-	12	669	17	2.54
50	2,089	0	0	13	73	1	1.37
51	1,461	22	1.51	14	0	0	-
52	245	5	2.04	15	2,209	15	0.68
1–4	-	-	-	16	1,565	13	0.83
5	982	53	5.40	17	1,781	11	0.62
6	903	9	1.00	18	2,278	25	1.10
7	1,084	13	1.20	19	525	5	0.95
8	1,117	16	1.43	20–40	No chinook salmon marked		
9	785	12	1.53	Total	22,533	276	1.22

<sup>1</sup> This test was not included in our overall evaluation because of the very low number of fish marked and released.

Table 12. Estimates (80% CI) of the number of hatchery-produced chinook salmon and yearling steelhead trout that passed Knights Landing at RM 89.5 on the Sacramento River, from 29 September 1996 through 4 October 1997.

Cohort	A Marked caught	B Marked estimate (A' 0.0145) <sup>2/</sup>	C No. planted marked	D Survival (B' C)	E No. planted unmarked	F No. estimated unmarked (D×E)	G No. estimated hatchery total (B+F)
Late-fall run	176	12,138 (9,607–16,604)	926,588	0.013 (0.010–0.018)	0	0	12,138 (9,617–16,604)
Winter run	2	138 (109–189)	4,718	0.029 (0.023–0.040)	0	0	138 (109–189)
Fall run	893	61,517 (48,744–84,149)	1,002,015	0.061 (0.049–0.084)	11,439,960	697,838 (560,558–960,957)	759,355 (608,862–1,045,862)
Steelhead <sup>1/</sup>	0	0	0	-	540,287	-	-

<sup>1/</sup> Only unmarked BY1996 steelhead smolts were released from Coleman National Fish Hatchery.

<sup>2/</sup> 80% CI of 0.0145 used in estimates was 0.0106, 0.0183.

Table 13. Estimates (80% CI) of the number of in-river-produced chinook salmon and yearling steelhead trout that passed Knights Landing at RM 89.5 on the Sacramento River, from 29 September 1996 through 4 October 1997.

Cohort	A Total caught	B Estimated total A' 0.0145) <sup>2/</sup>	C Hatchery total (from Table 12)	D In-river total (B-C)
Late-fall run (BY 1996)	236	16,276 (12,896–22,264)	12,138 (9,617–16,604)	4,138 (3,279–5,660)
Late-fall run (BY 1997)	5	345 (273–472)	0	345 (273–472)
Winter run	273	18,828 (14,919–25,755)	138 (109–189)	18,690 (14,809–25,566)
Spring run	2,324	160,276 (126,996–219,242)	0	160,276 (126,996–219,242)
Fall run <sup>1/</sup>	49,663	3,425,034 (2,713,860–4,685,104)	759,355 (608,862–1,045,825)	2,665,679 (2,112,177–3,646,382)
Total salmon	52,501	3,620,759 (2,868,944–4,952,836)	771,631 (611,410–1,055,514)	2,849,128 (2,257,535–3,897,322)
Steelhead	168	11,586 (9,180–15,848)	0	11,586 (9,180–15,848)

<sup>1/</sup> Includes spring-run-sized salmon collected after week 14.

<sup>2/</sup> 80% CI of 0.0145 used in estimates was 0.0106, 0.0183.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Knights Landing monitoring project is part of the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Salmonid Project Work Team's (SPWT) juvenile salmonid monitoring program. It was partially funded by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as part of DWR's contribution to the IEP. Many of the agencies and private entities involved in management activities within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its tributaries are represented on the SPWT, including National Marine Fisheries Service, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Water Resources, California Department of Fish and Game, State Water Contractors, and Metropolitan Water District.

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- Zar, J. H. 1984. *Biostatistical analysis*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ. 718 pp.

# FIGURES

# Sacramento River and tributaries

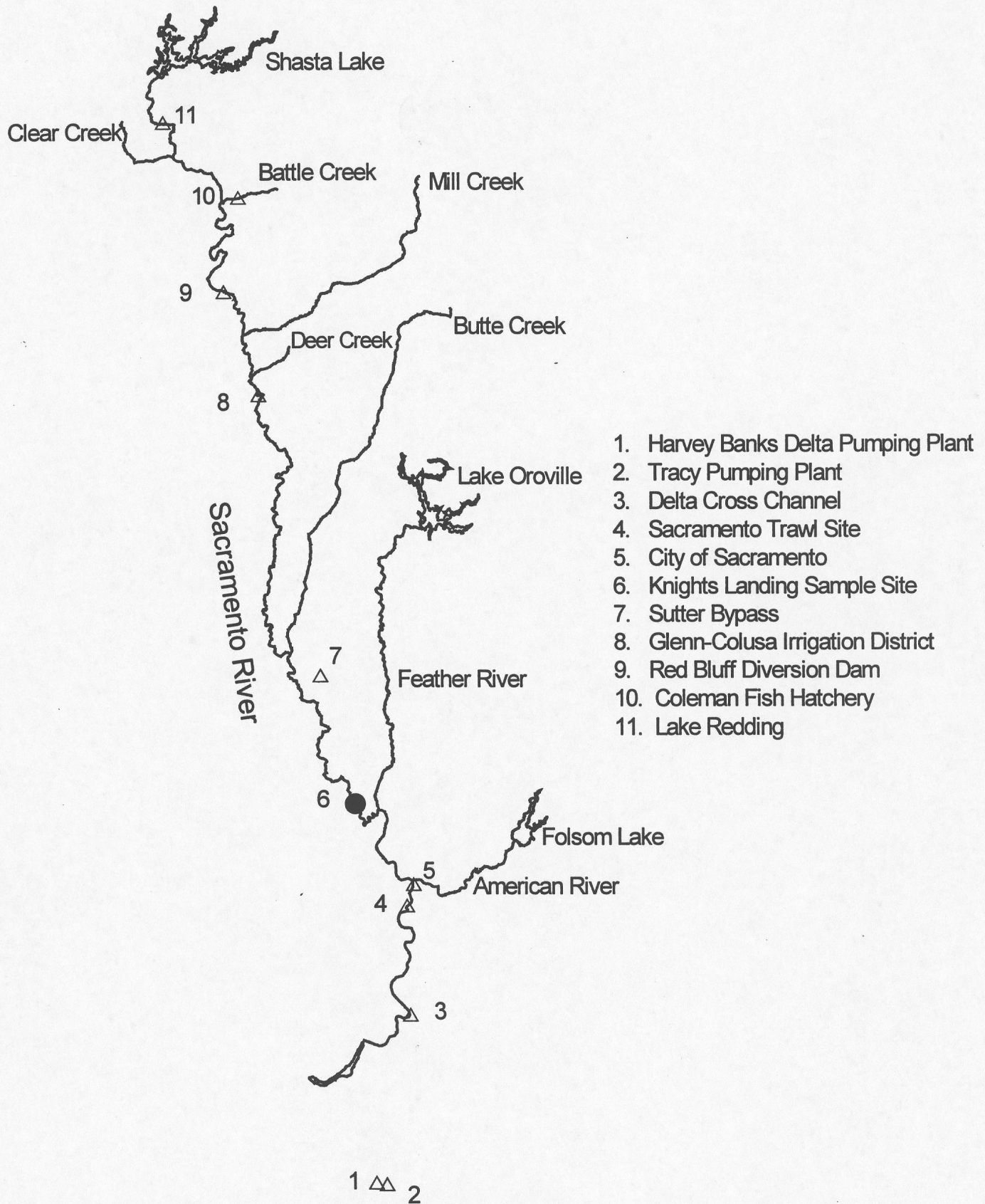


Figure 1. Relative location of Knights Landing monitoring site in the upper Sacramento River

## Sacramento River at Knights Landing Rotary Screw Trap Cross Section Profile

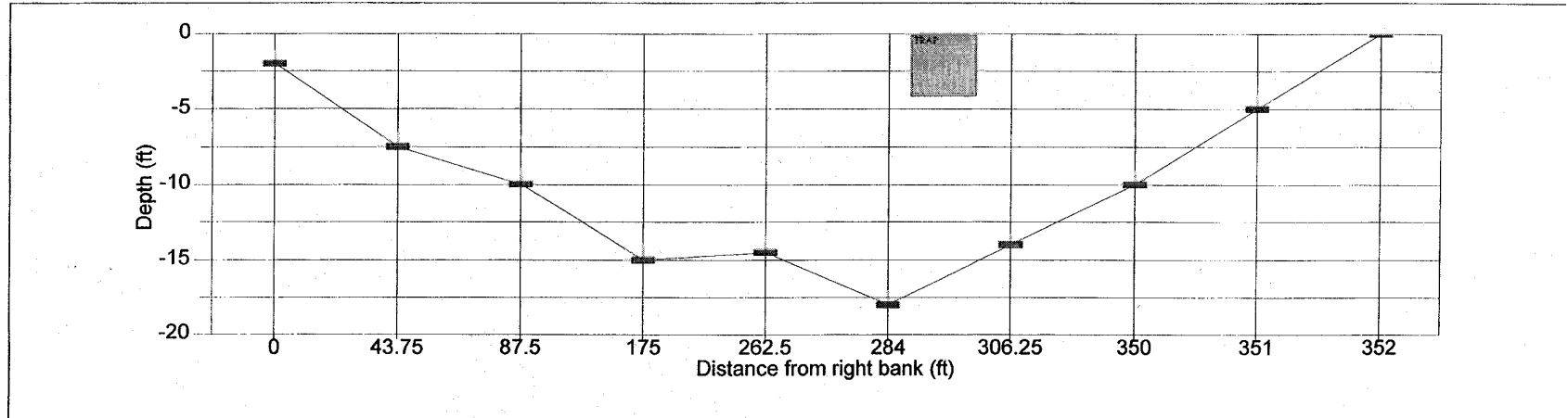


Figure 2. Cross section profile of Sacramento River at the Knights Landing rotary screw trap sampling location, River Mile 89.5.

# Sacramento River flow and water temperature near Knights Landing

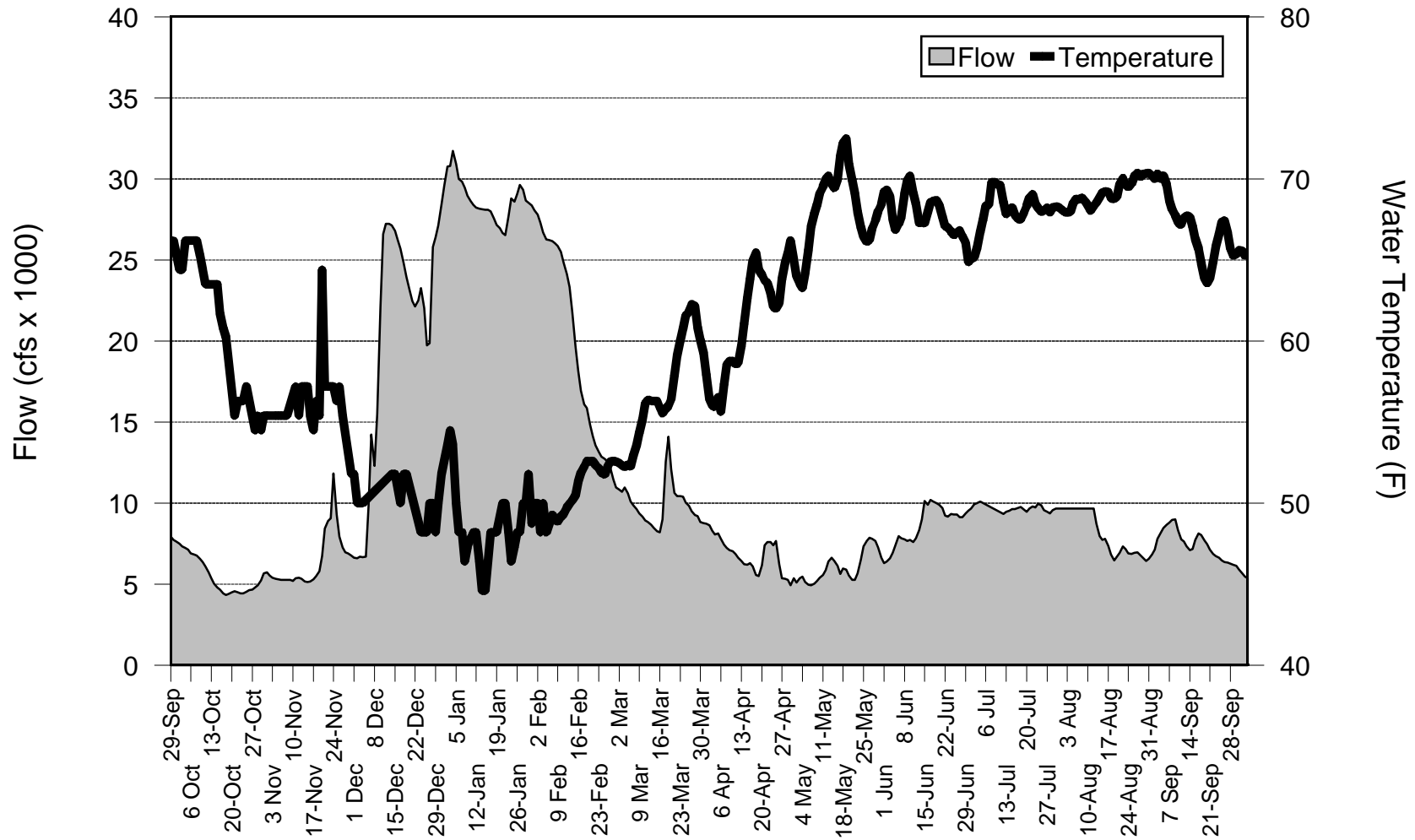


Figure 3. Mean daily flow measured in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing at Wilkins Slough, and mean daily water temperature measured at Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.



# Flow versus transparency

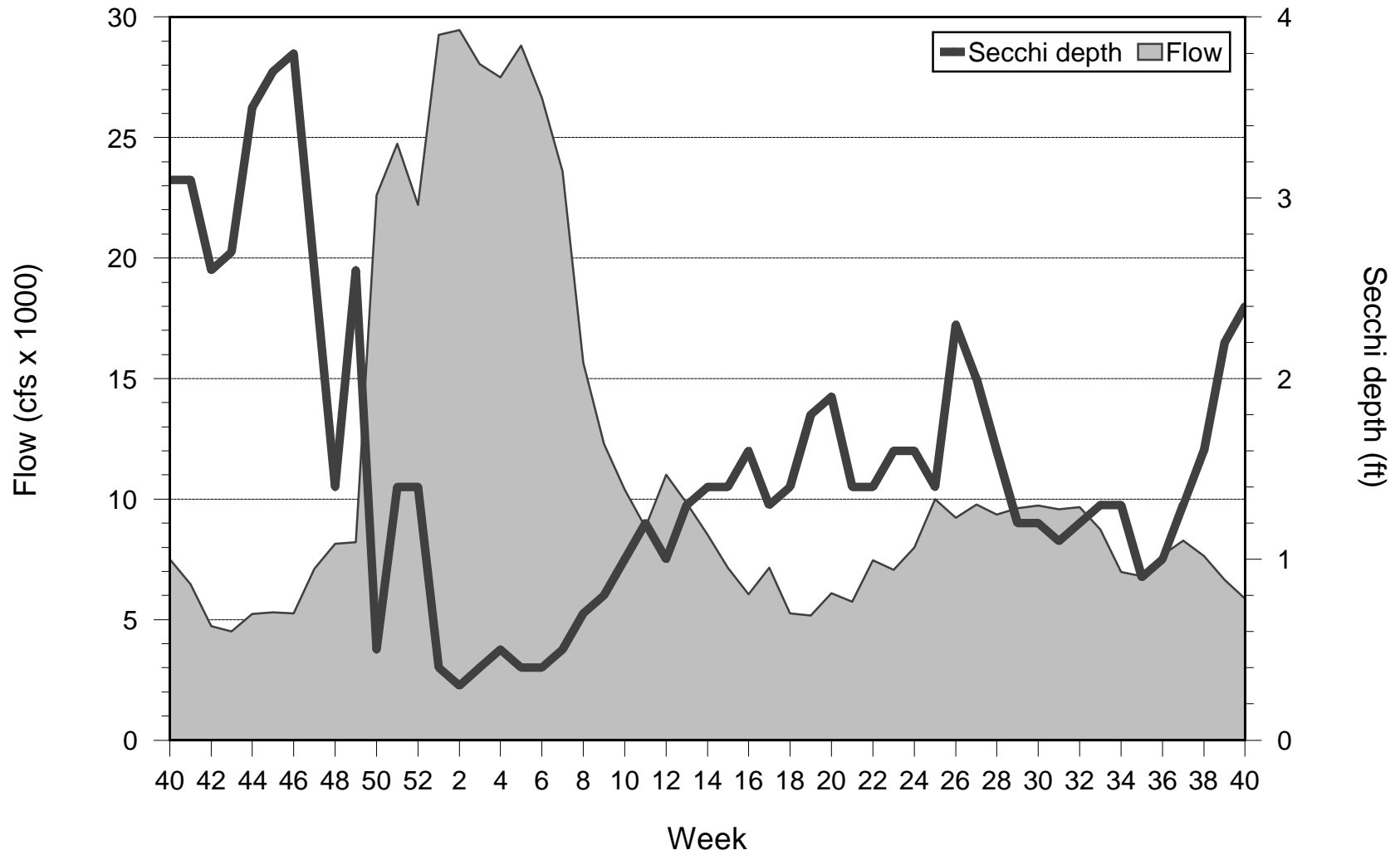


Figure 4. Mean weekly flow compared with mean weekly transparency (Secchi depth) measured in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.

# Flow versus effort - rotary screw traps

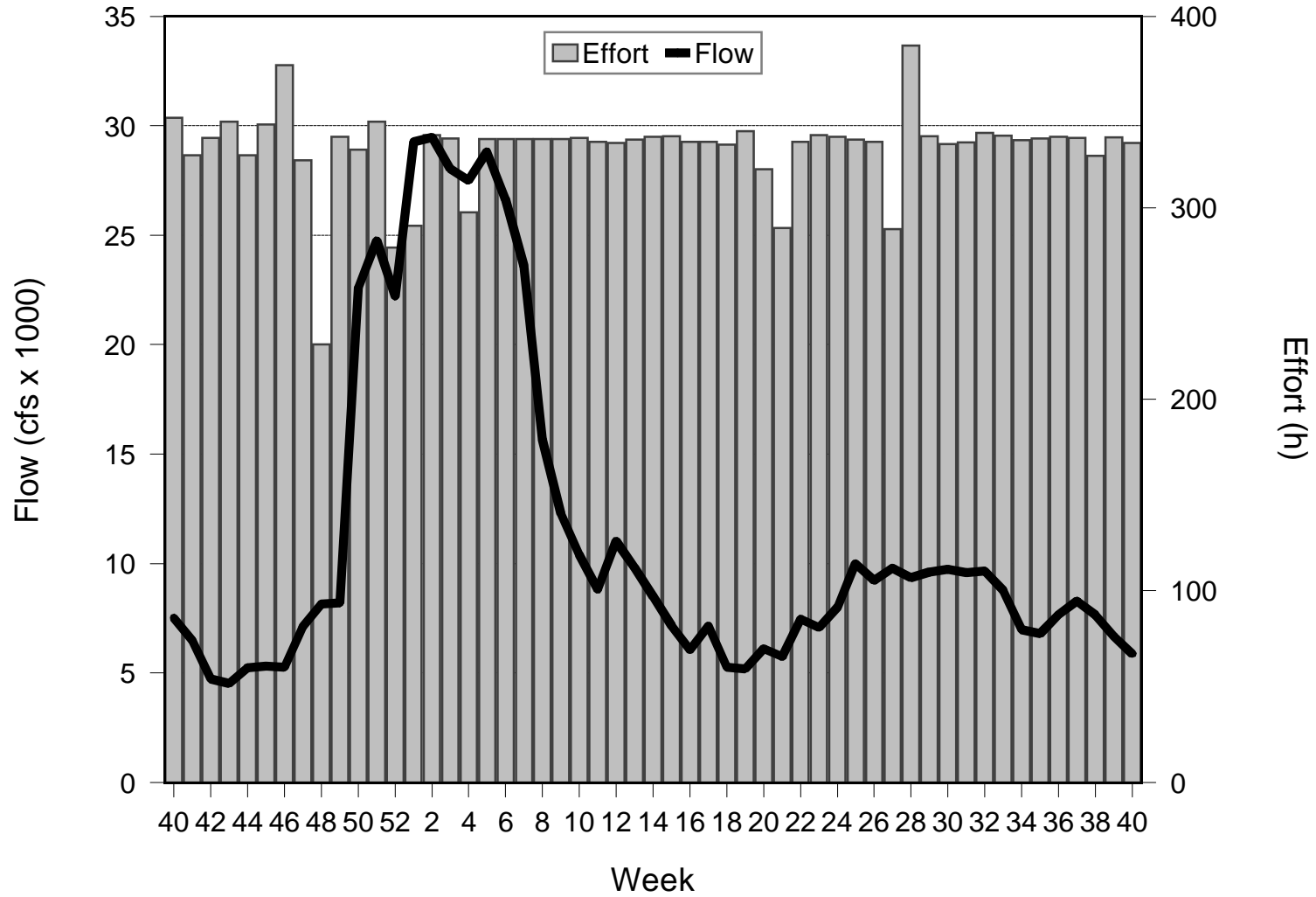


Figure 5. Mean weekly flow versus total weekly effort expended by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.

# Weekly total chinook salmon catch and catch/hour by rotary screw traps

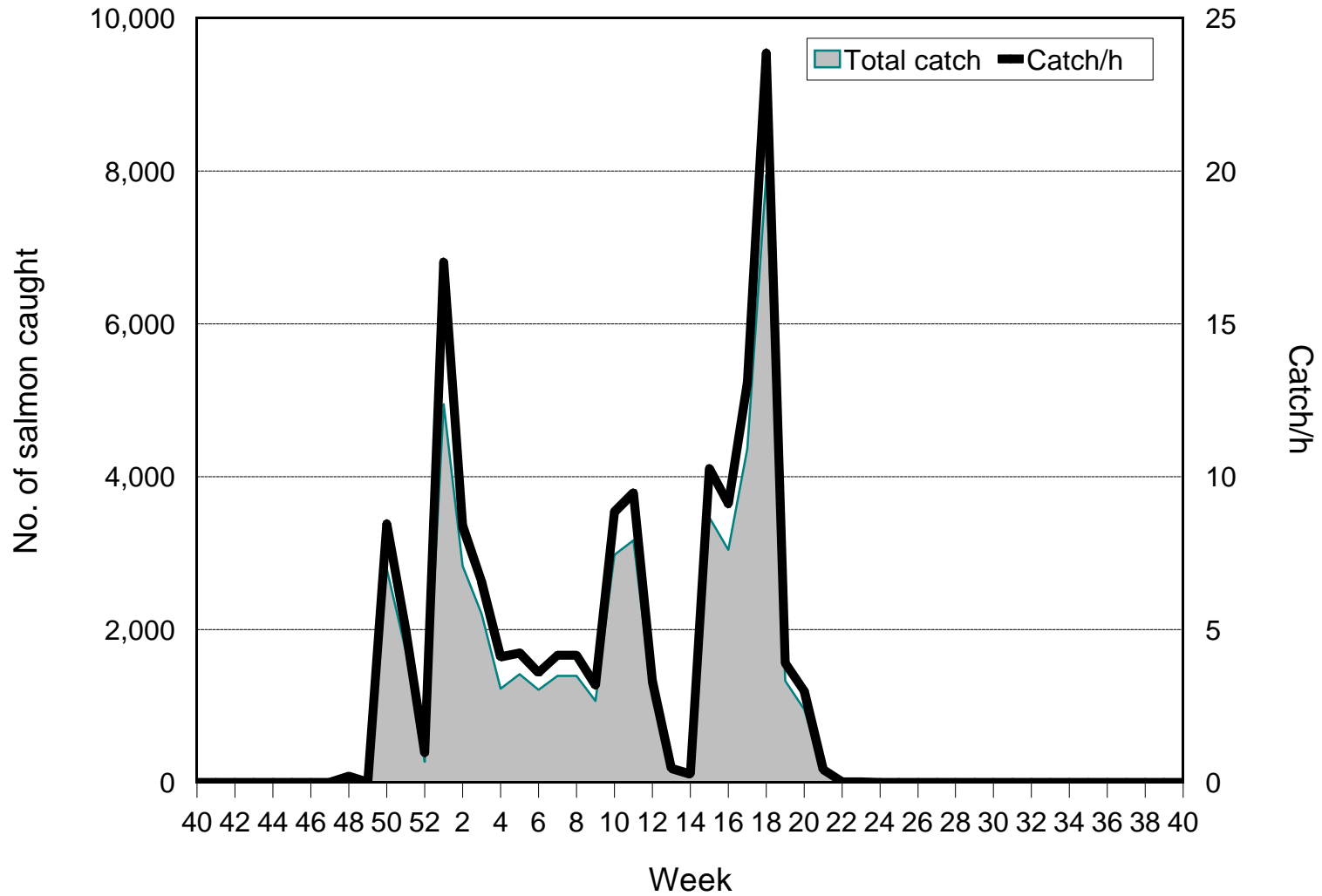


Figure 6. Comparison of catch and catch-rate for chinook salmon collected by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.

# Flow versus catch of chinook salmon by rotary screw traps

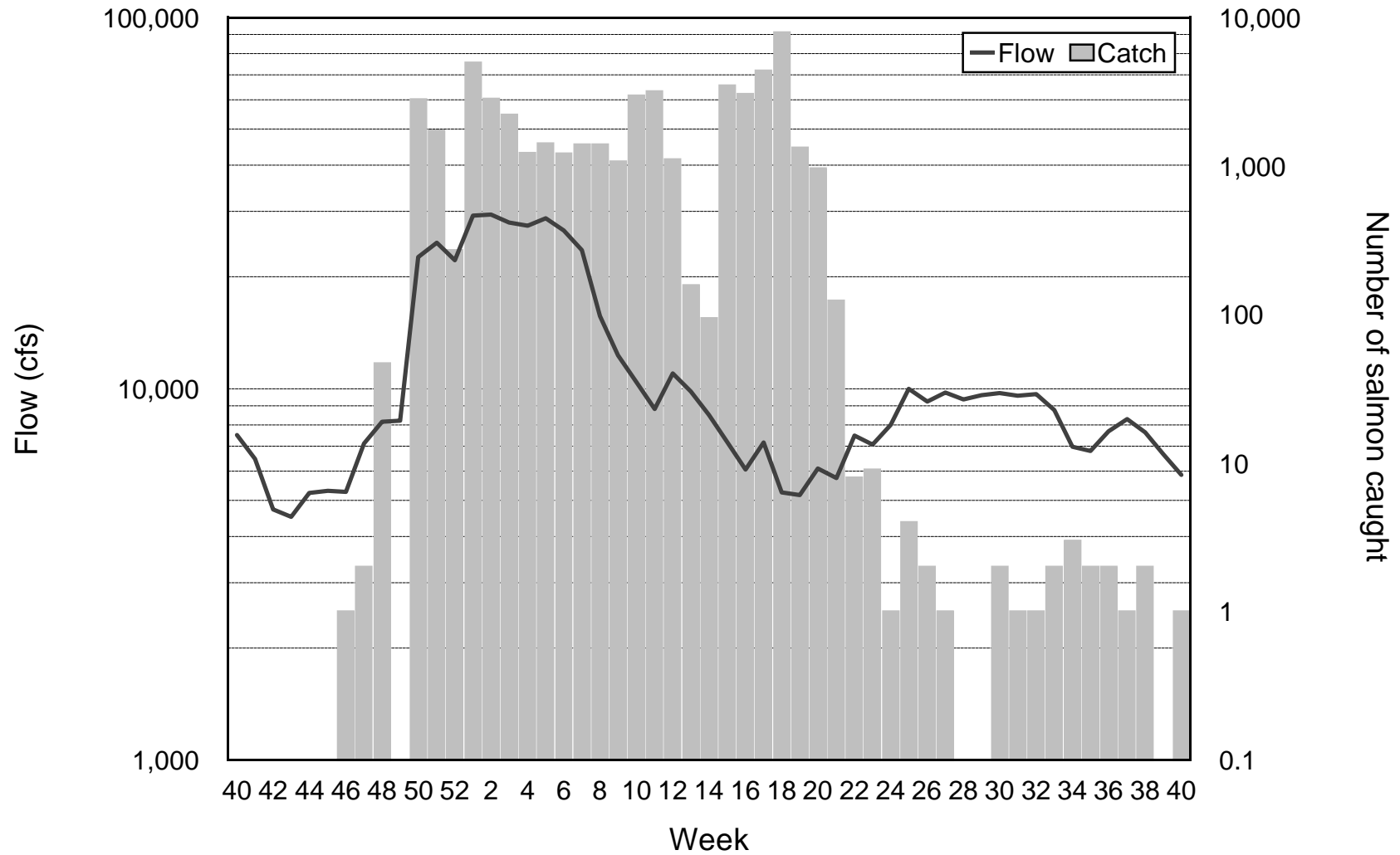


Figure 7. Comparison of mean weekly flow and weekly catch of chinook salmon collected by rotary screw traps in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.

# Mean weekly size and size range of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw trap

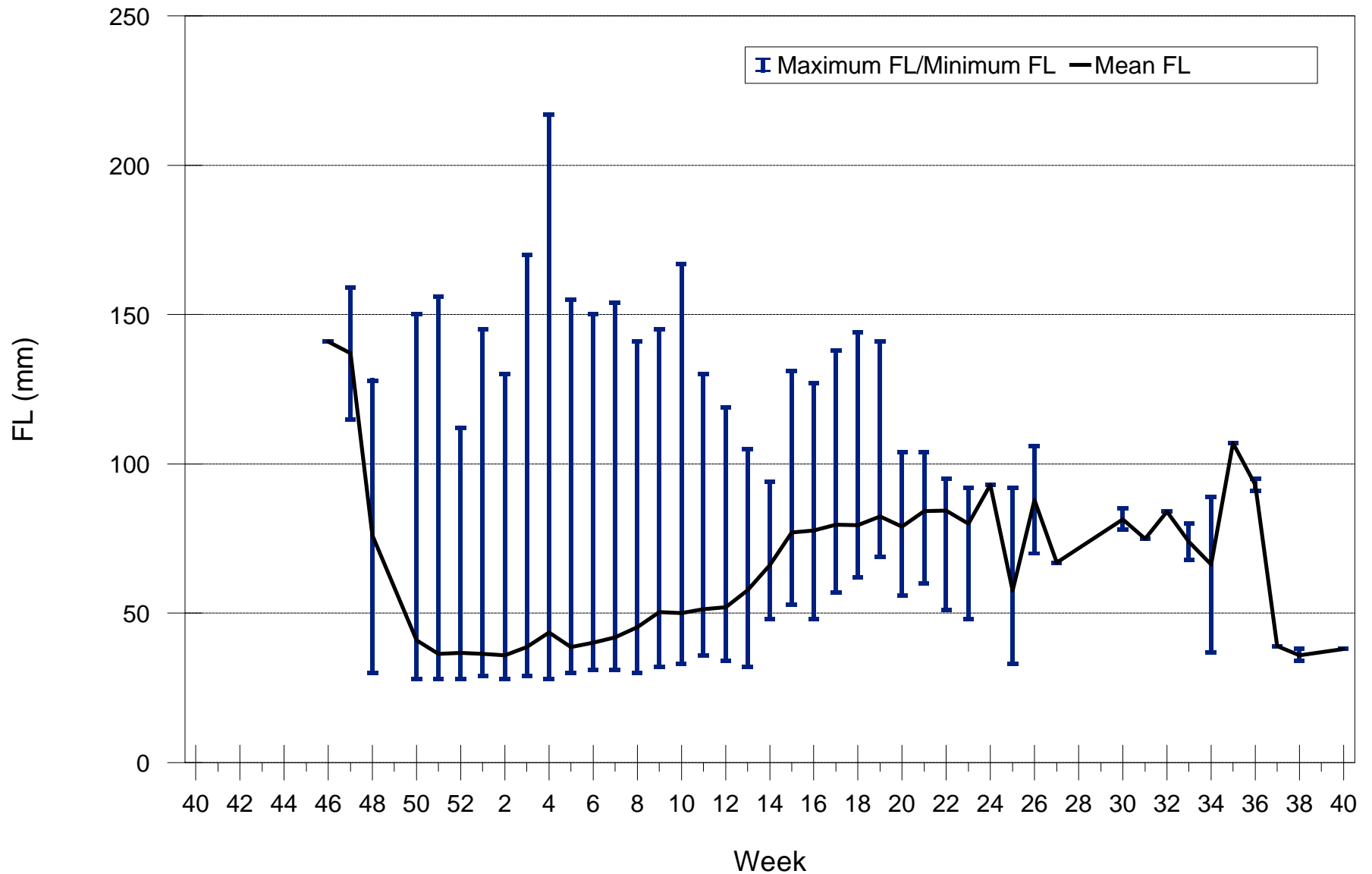


Figure 8. Mean weekly size (FL in mm) and size range of chinook salmon collected by rotary screw trap in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

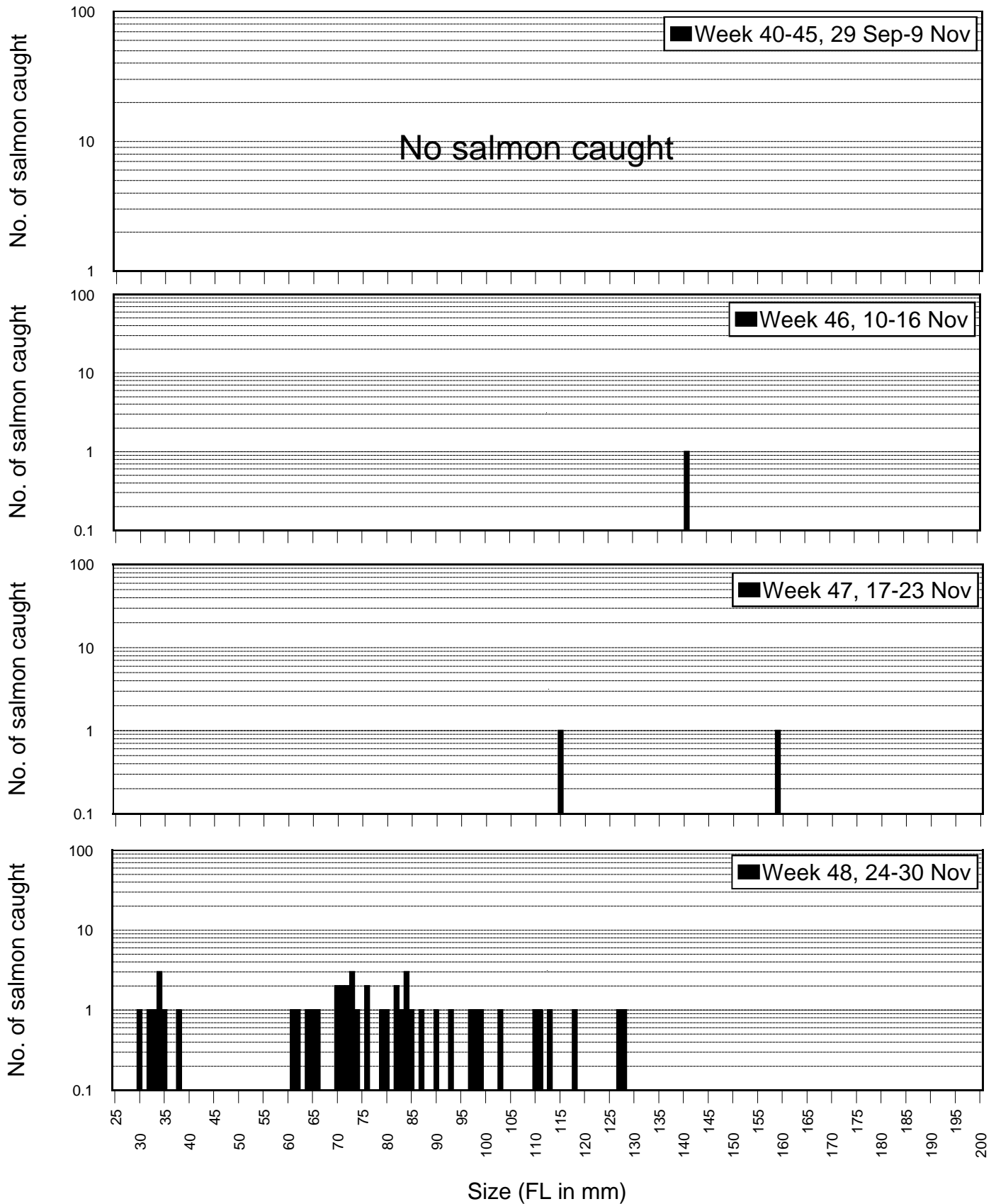


Figure 9. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 29 September through 30 November 1996.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

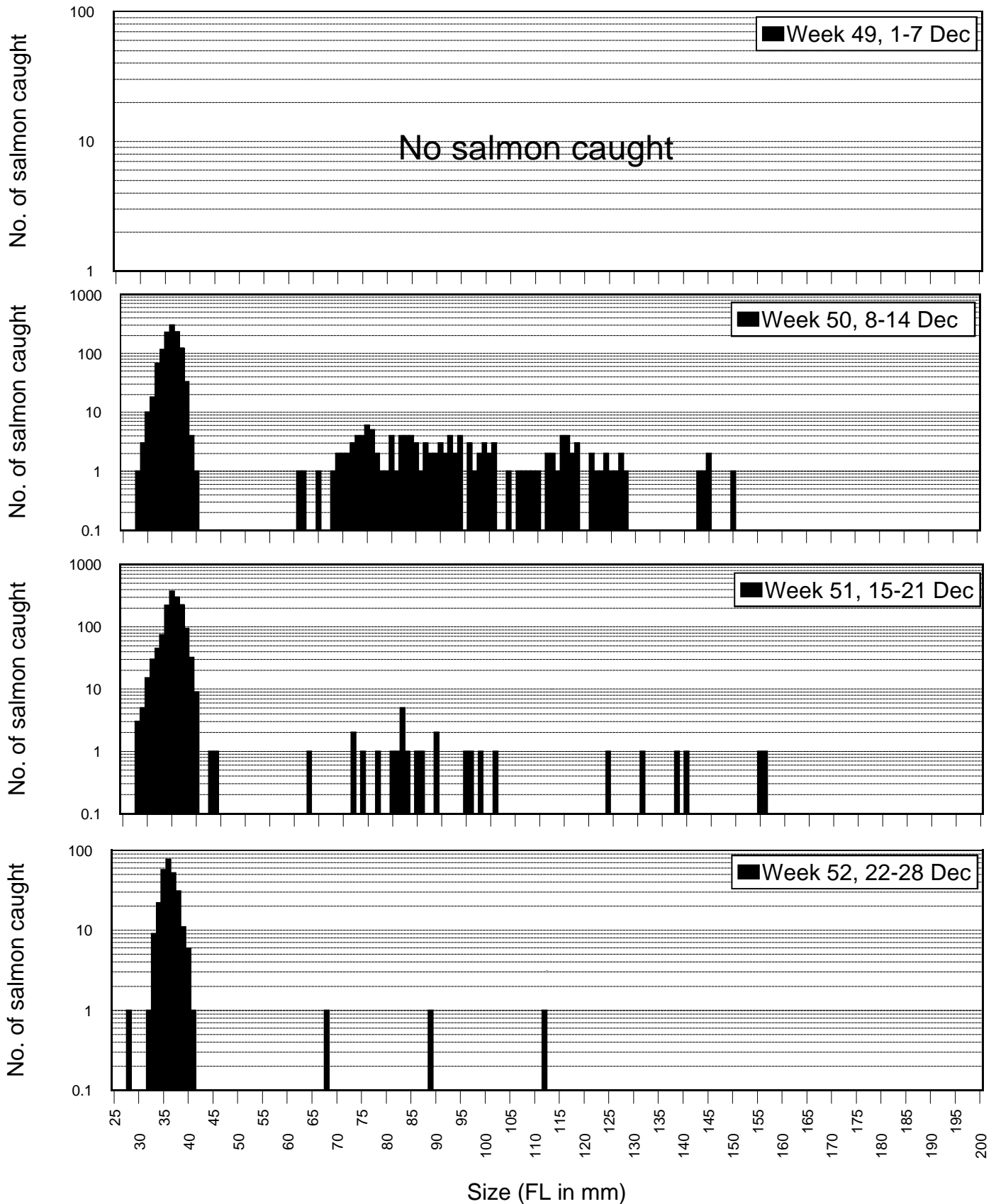


Figure 10. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 1 - 28 December 1996.

## Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

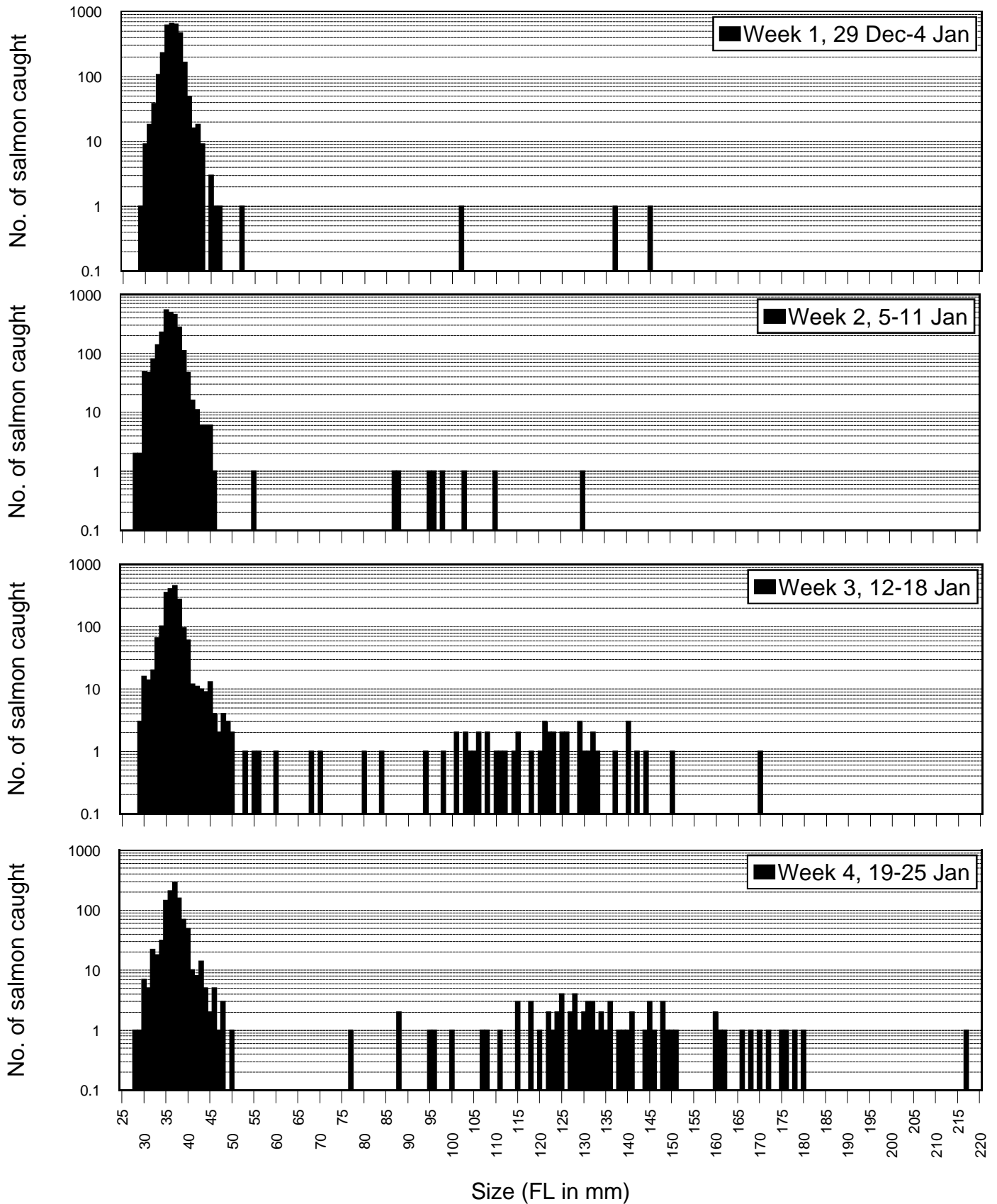


Figure 11. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 29 December through 25 January 1997.



### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

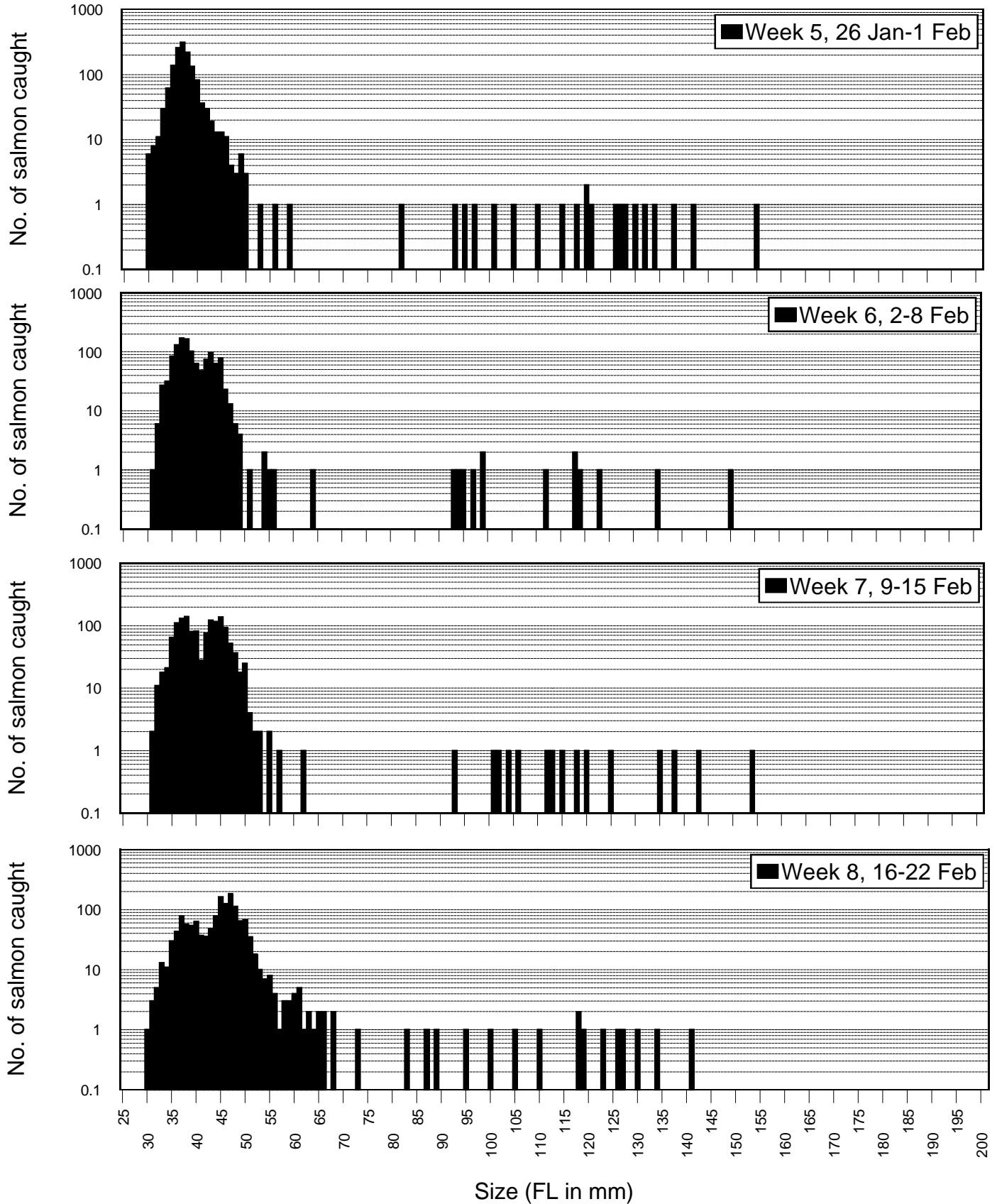


Figure 12. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 26 January through 22 February 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

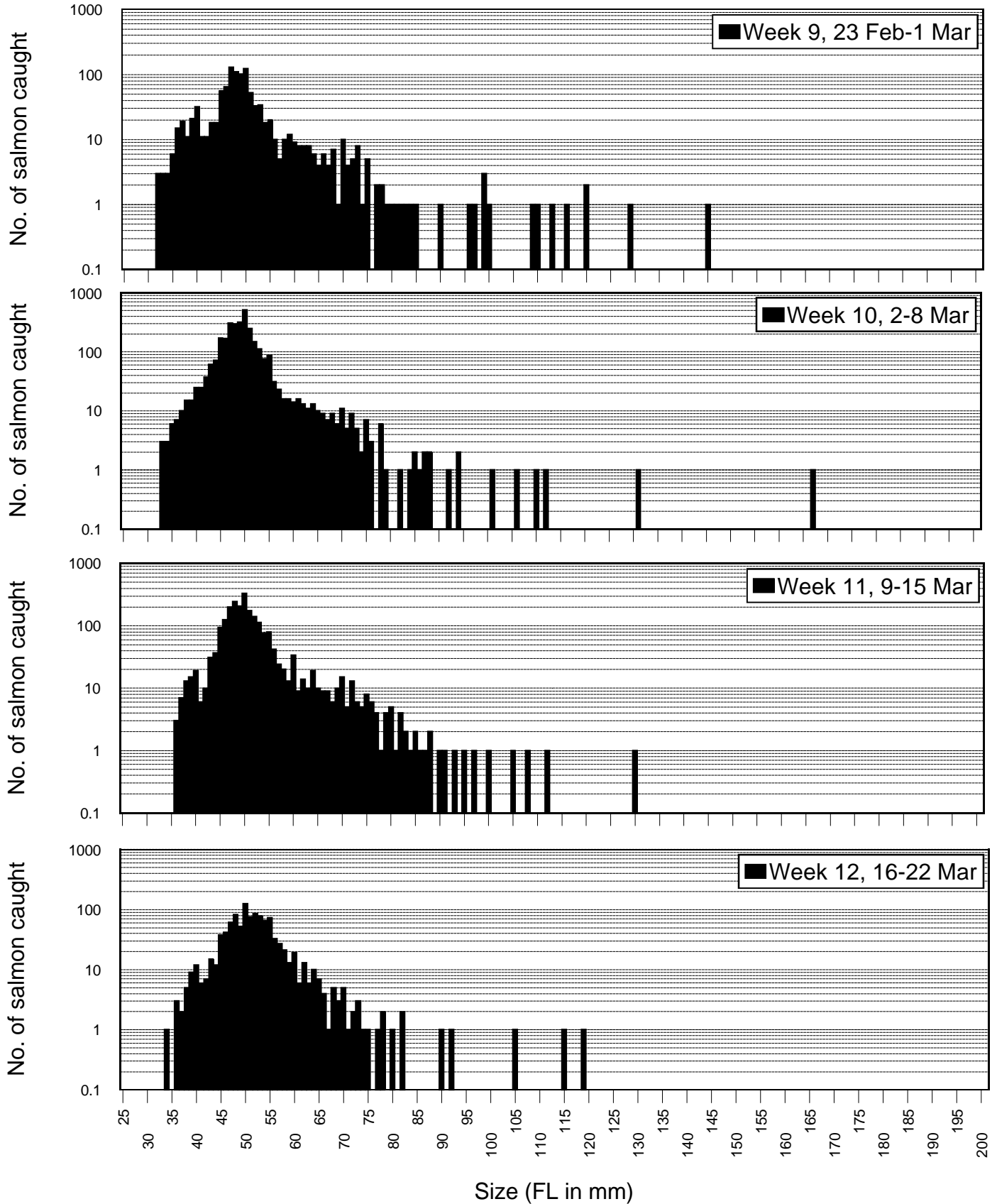


Figure 13. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 23 February through 22 March 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

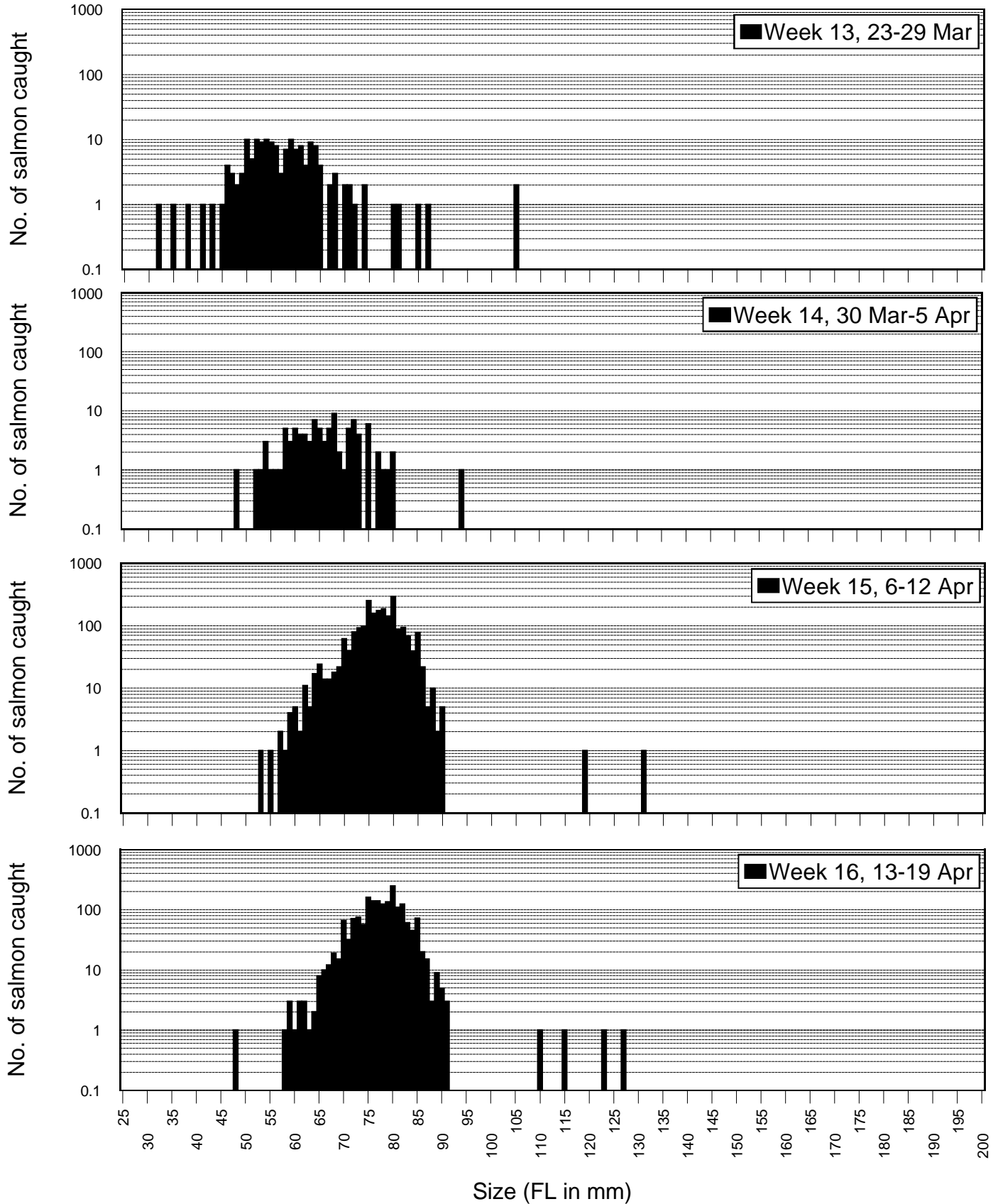


Figure 14. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 23 March through 19 April 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

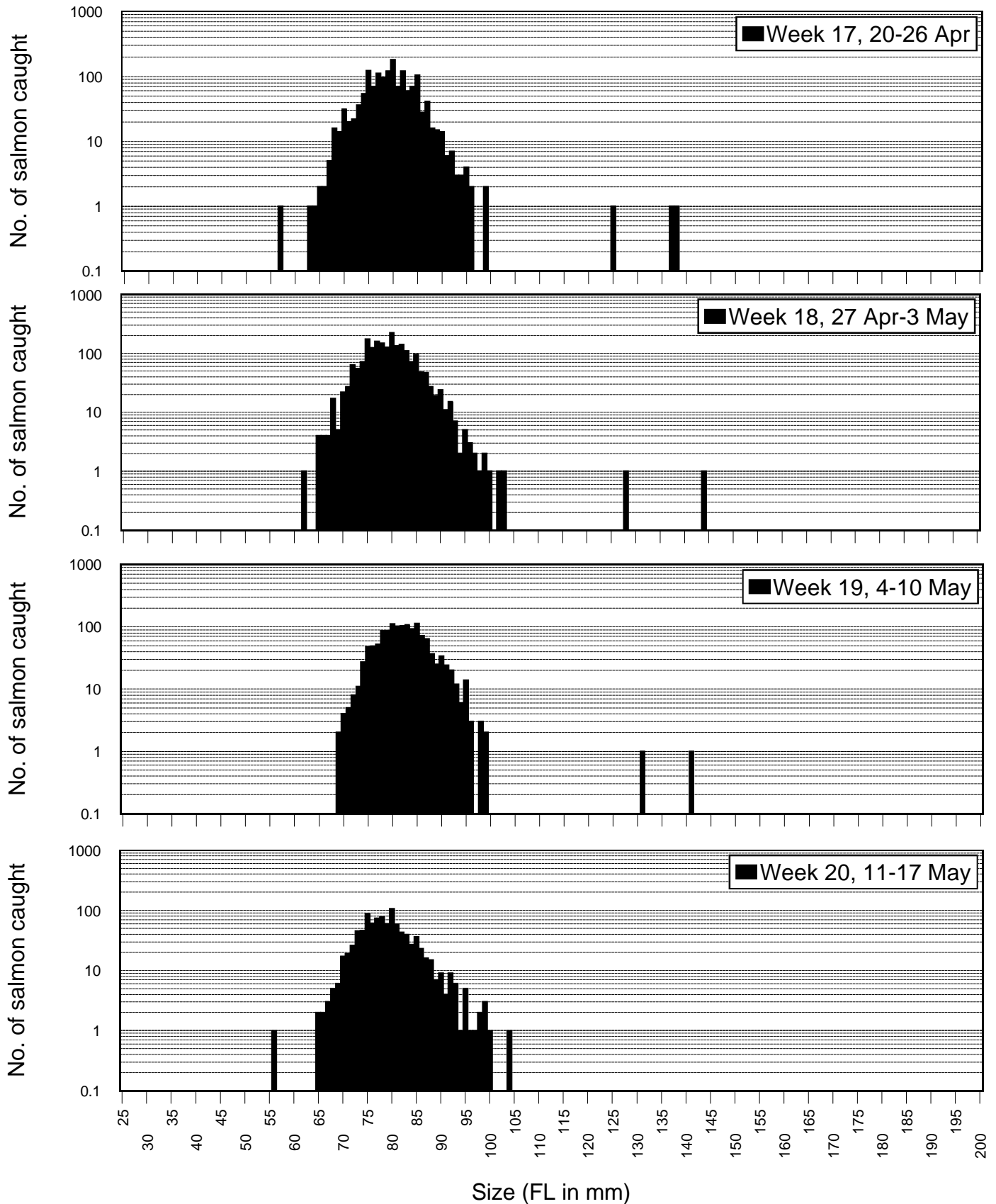


Figure 15. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 20 April through 17 May 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

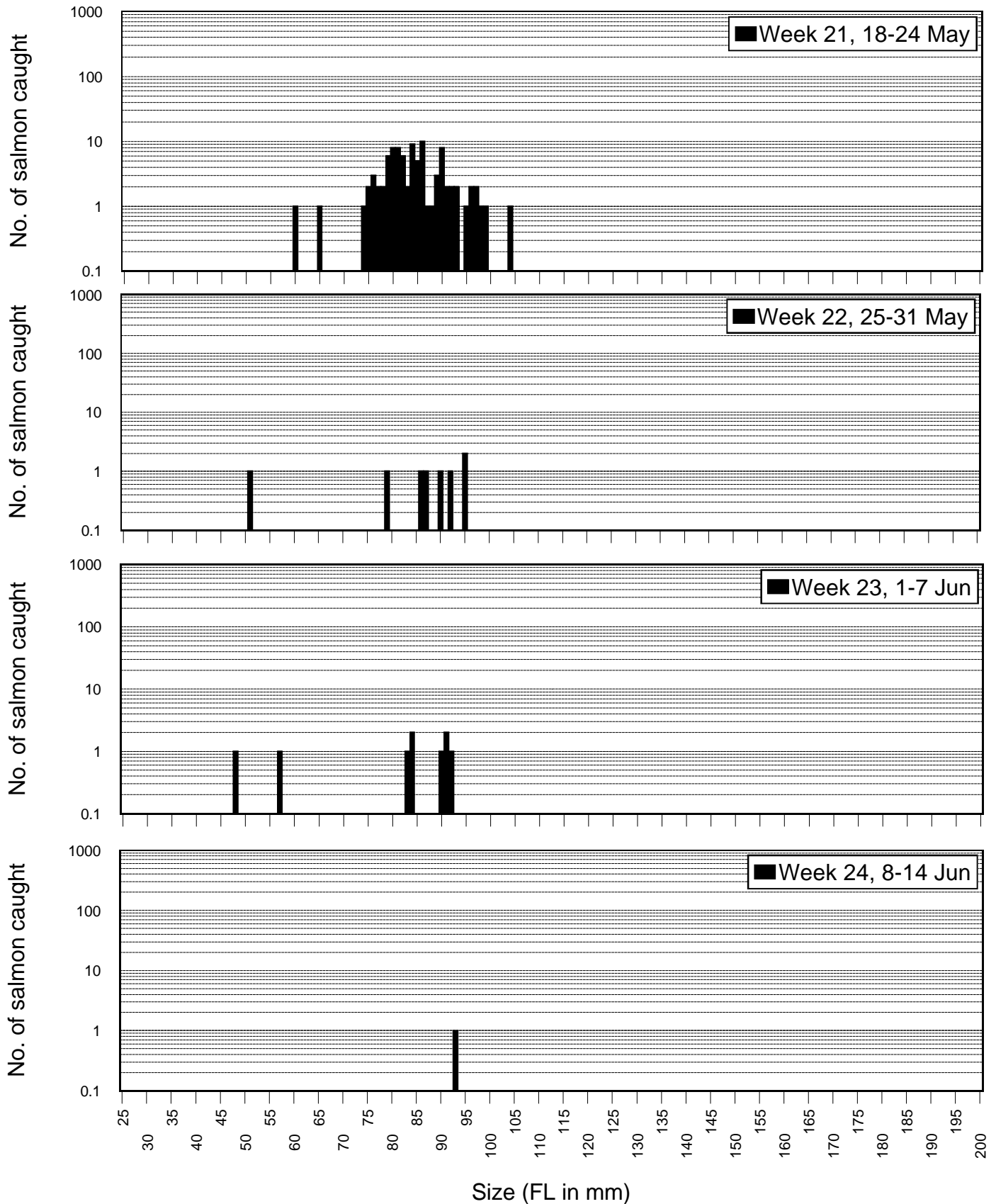


Figure 16. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 18 May through 14 June 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

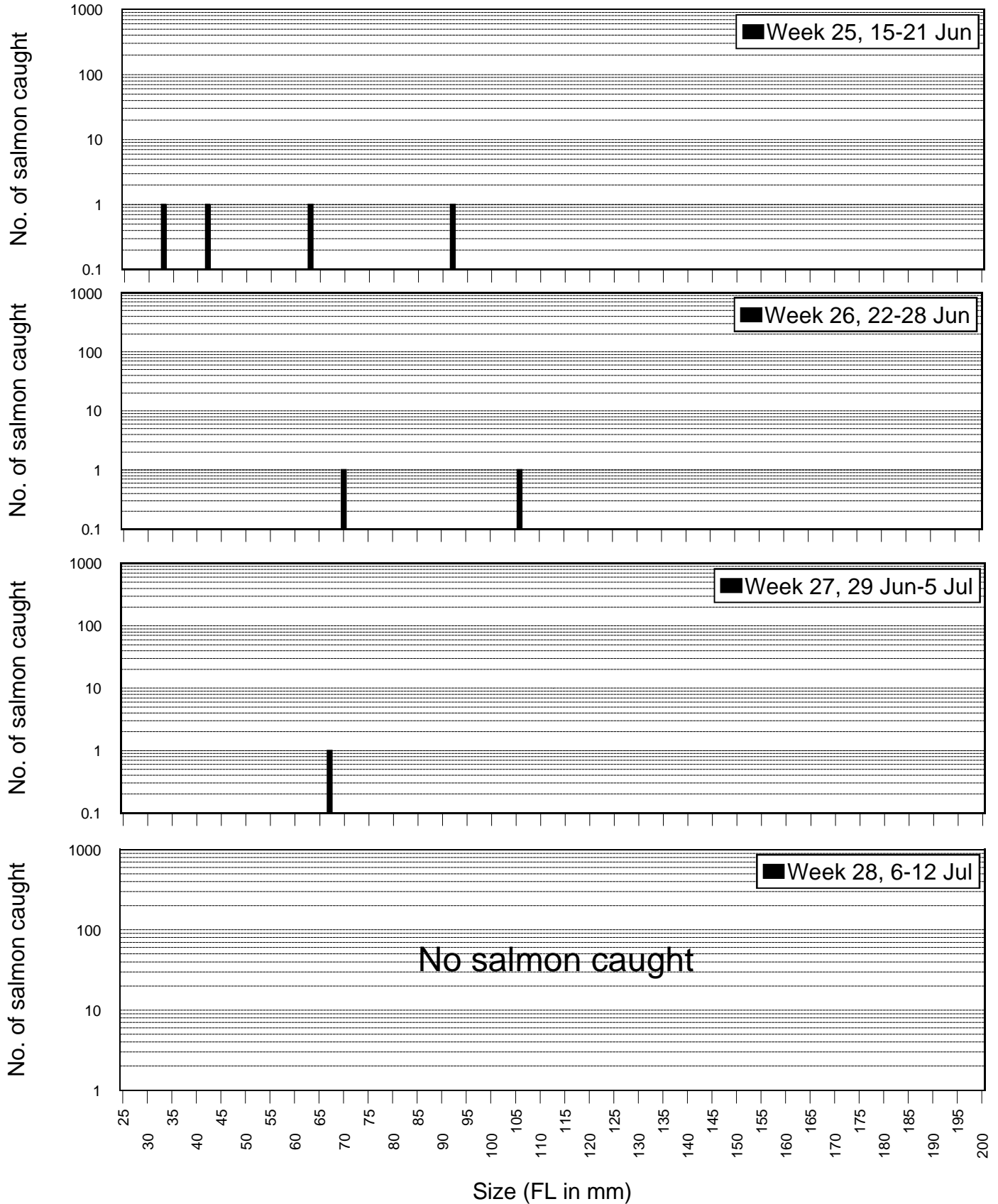


Figure 17. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 15 June through 12 July 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

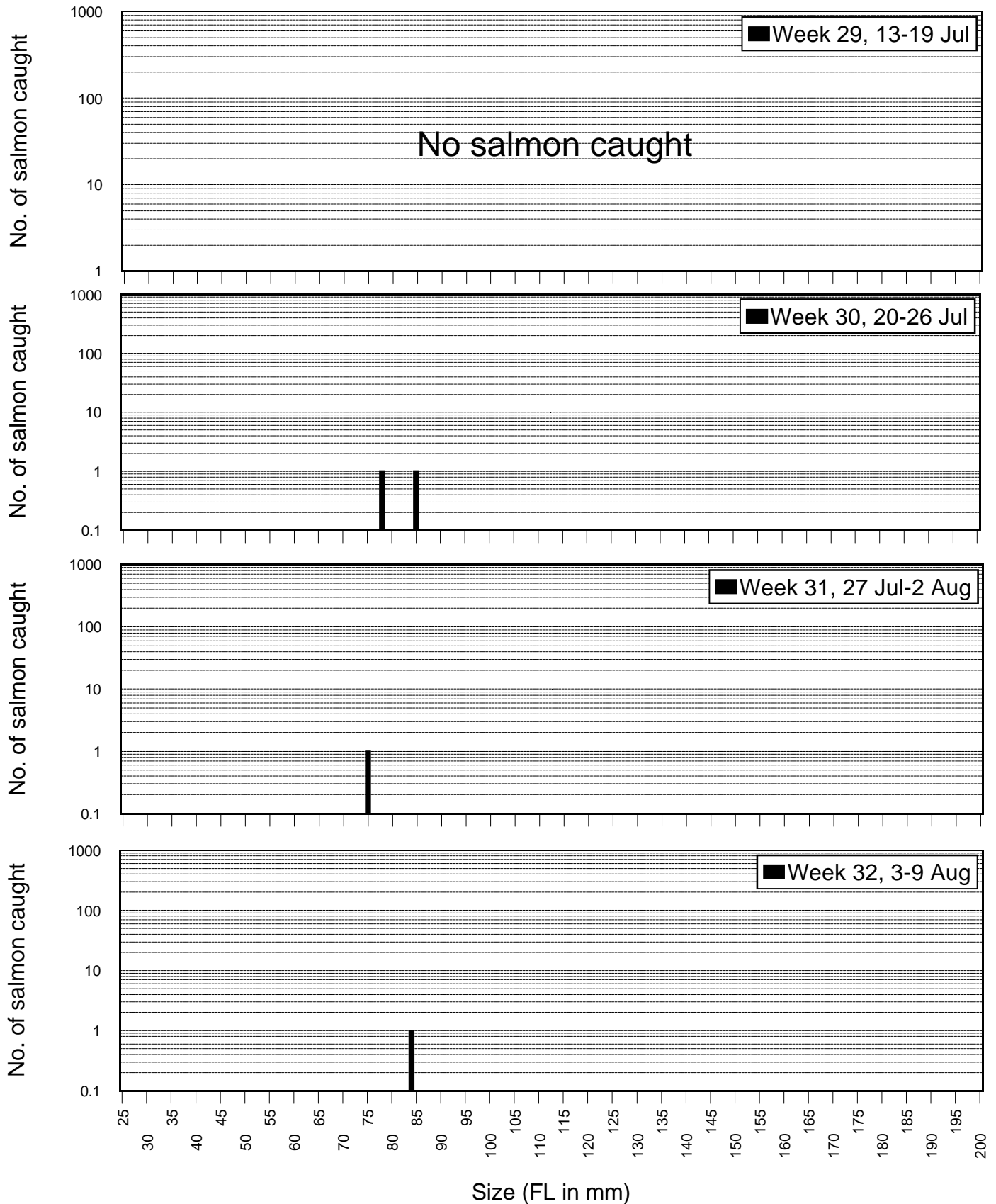


Figure 18. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 13 July through 09 August 1997.

### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

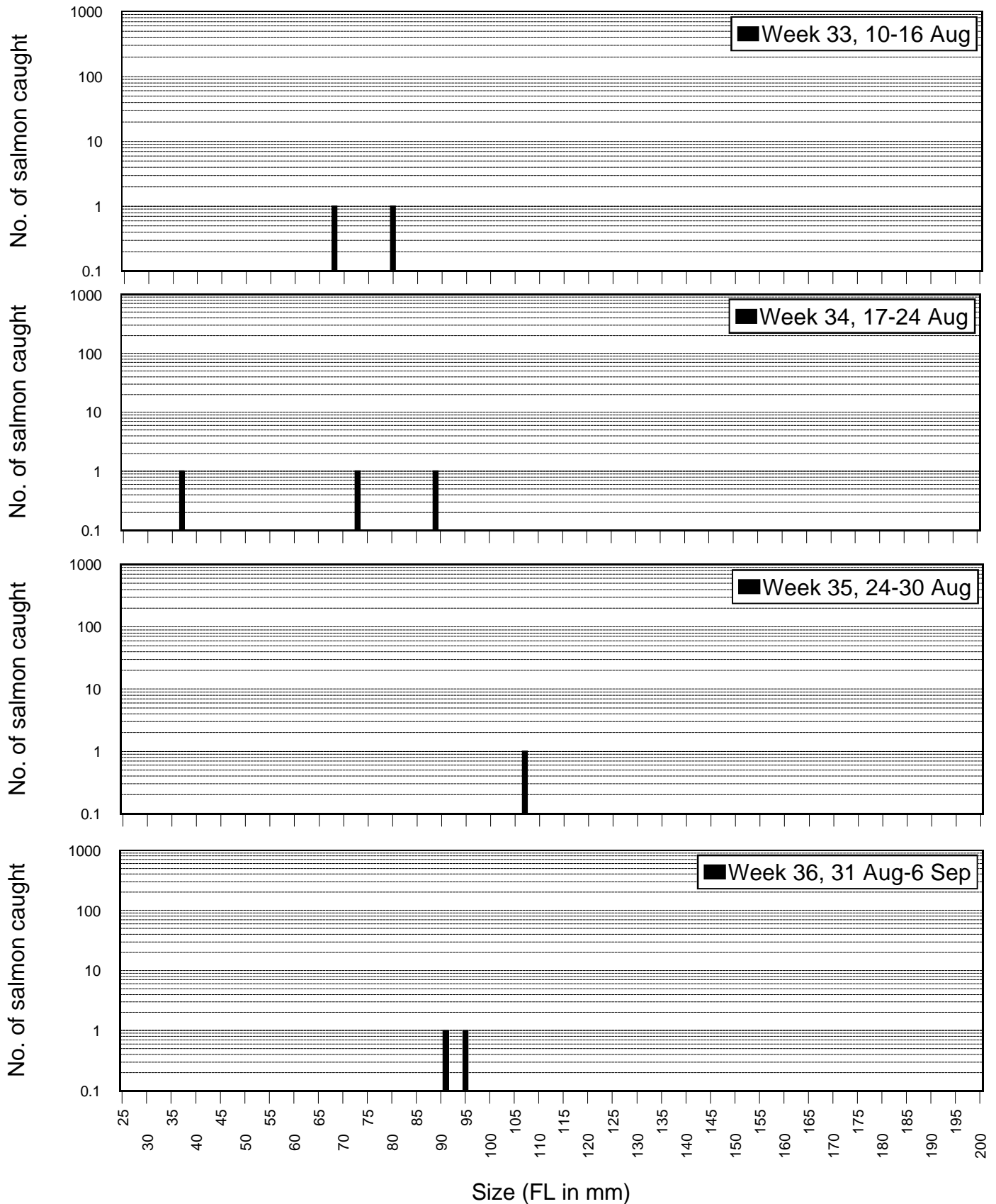


Figure 19. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 10 August through 06 September 1997.



### Chinook salmon size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

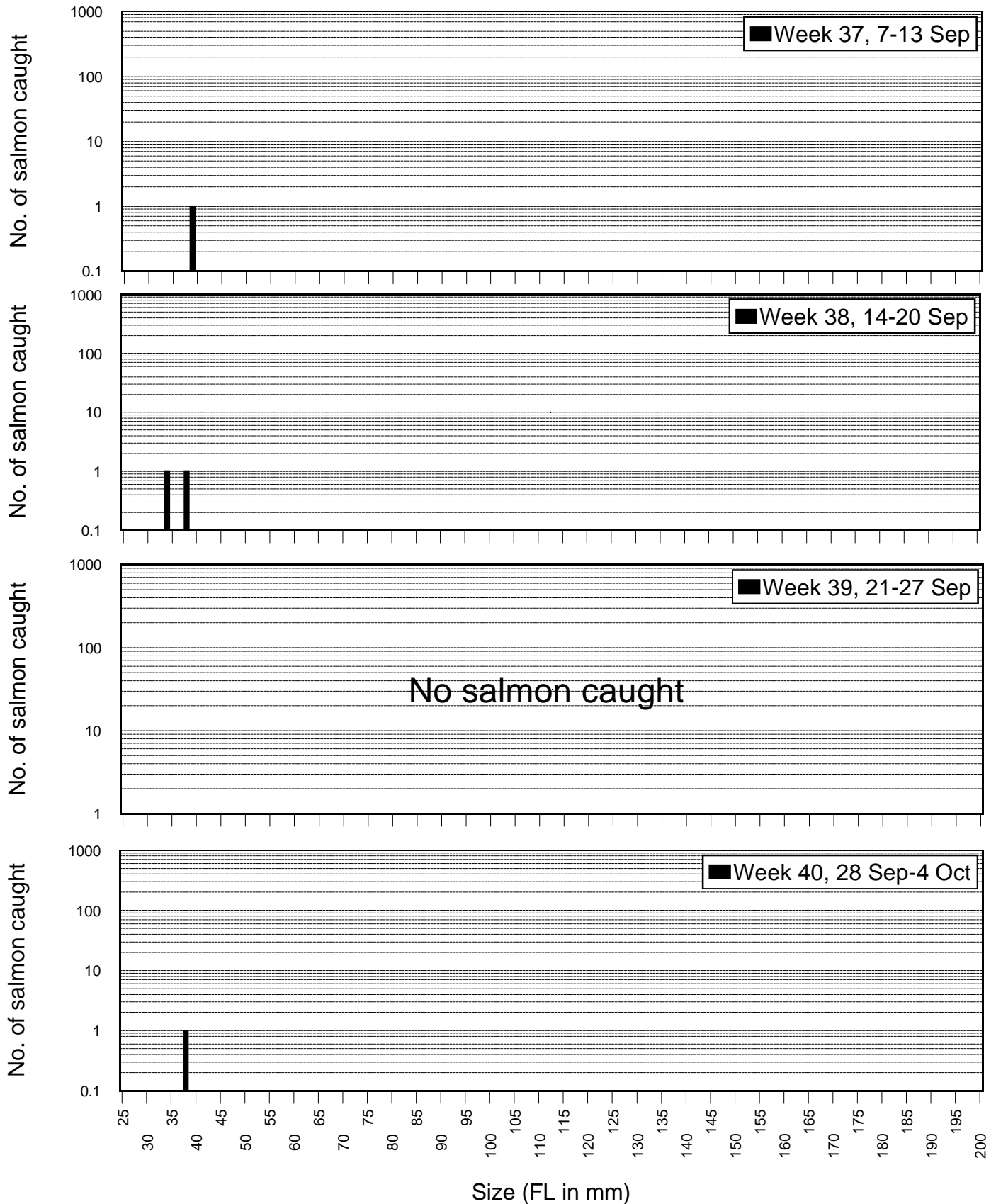


Figure 20. Size distribution of chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 07 September through 04 October 1997.

### Catch distribution of in-river produced chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River

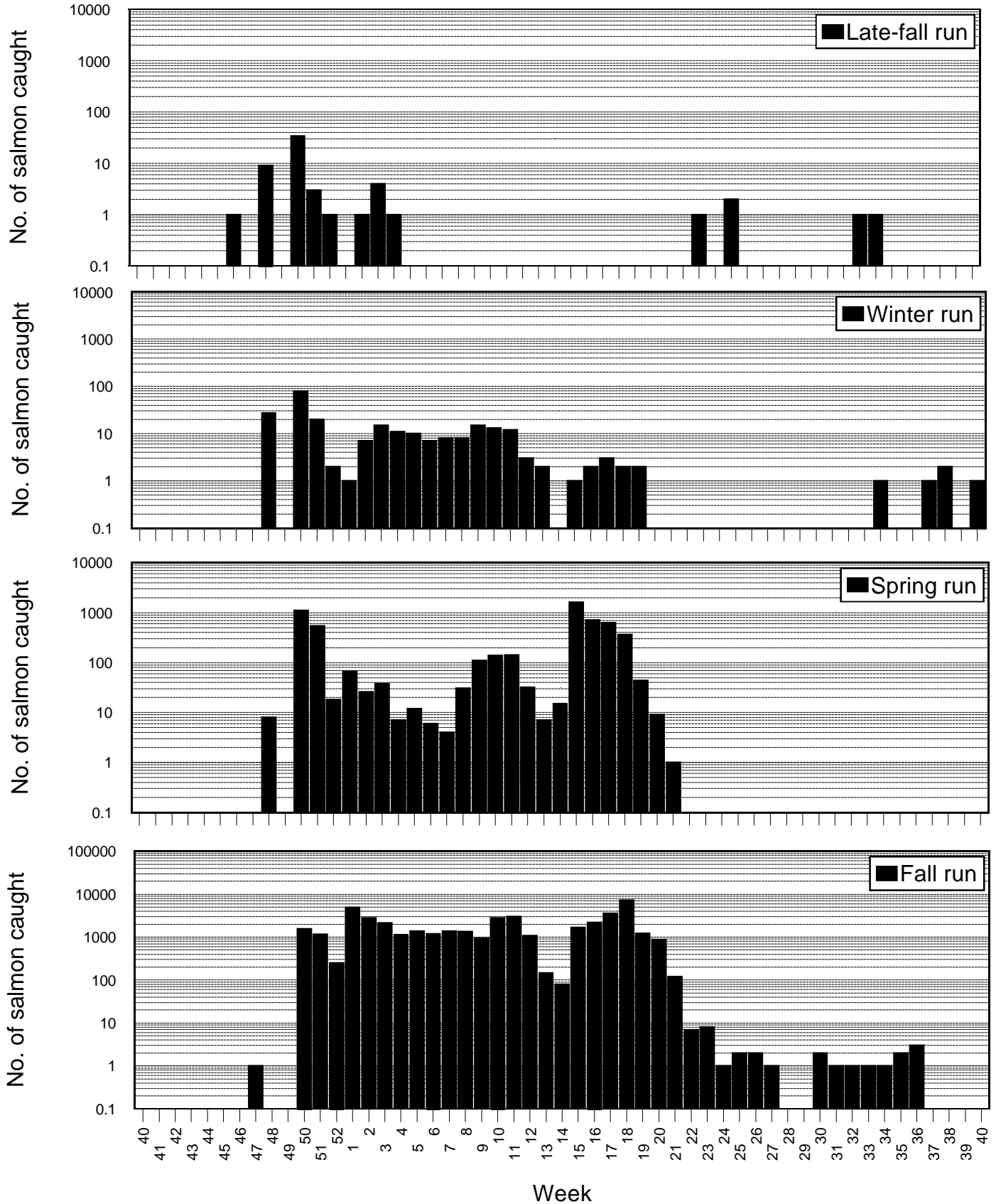


Figure 21. Catch distribution of in-river produced chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 29 September 1996 through 4 October 1997.

Catch distribution of adipose-clipped chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River

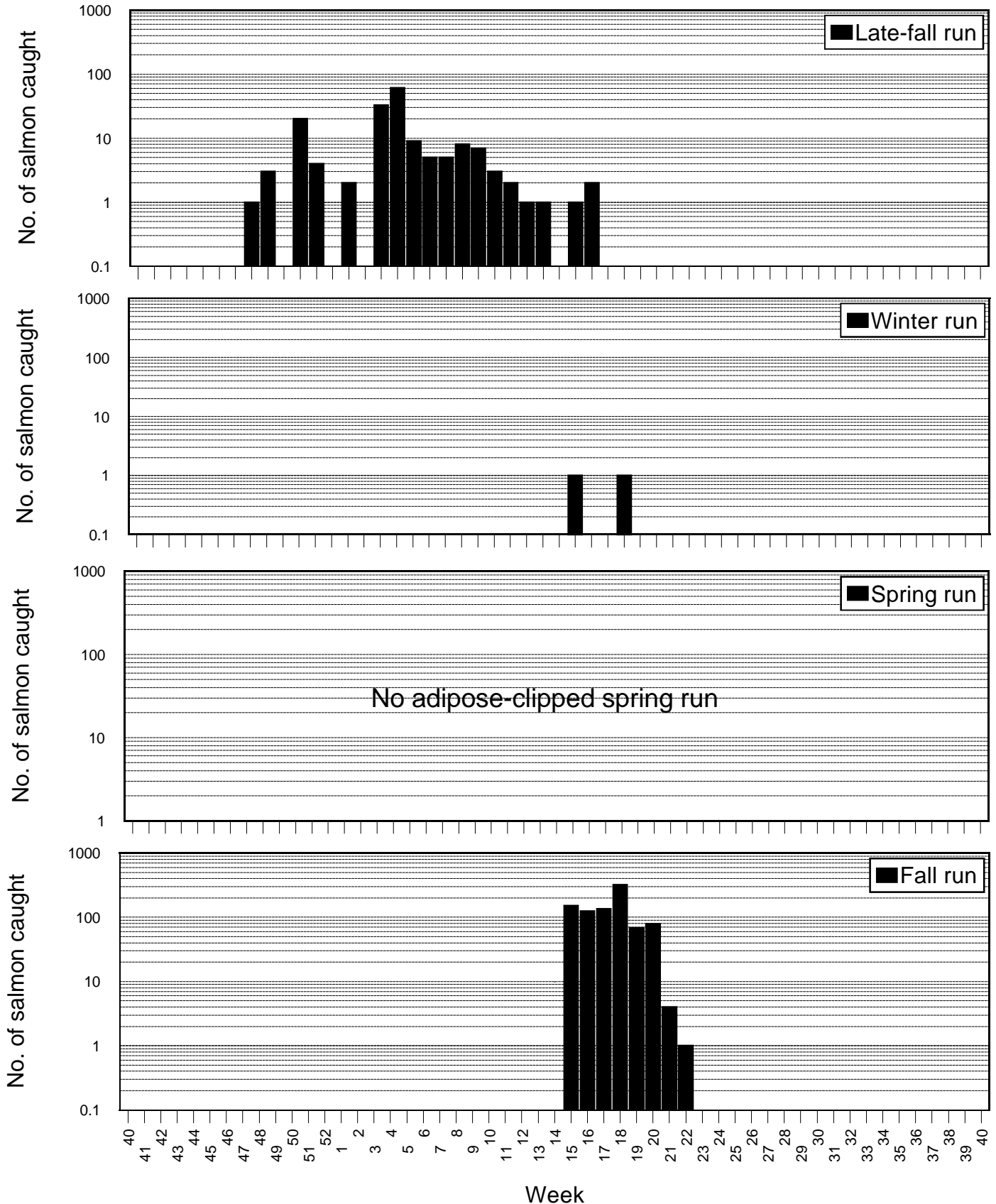


Figure 22. Catch distribution of adipose-clipped chinook salmon caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 29 September 1996 through 04 October 1997.

### Steelhead catch distribution - Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 1996-97

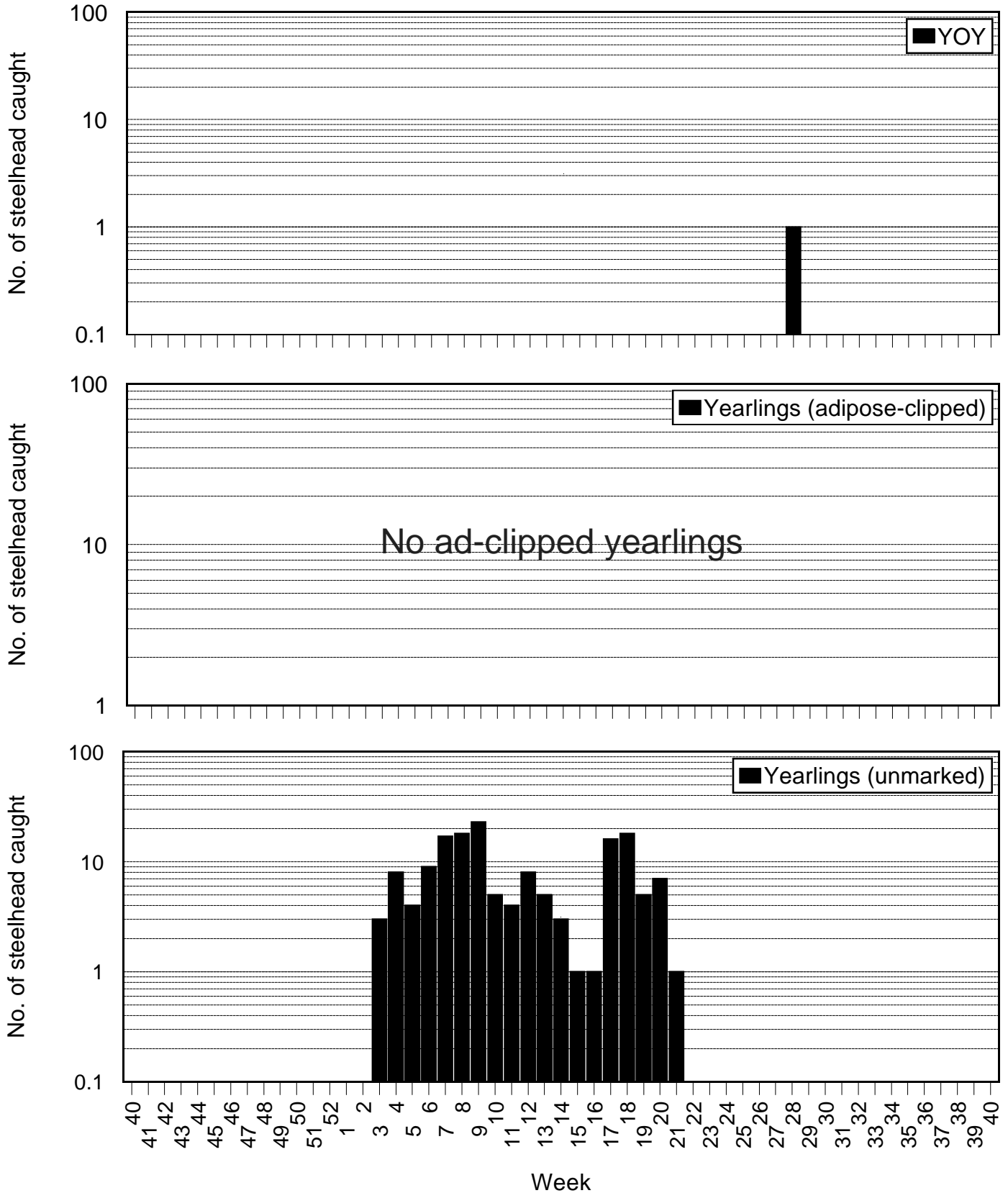


Figure 23. Catch distribution of young-of-year and yearling steelhead trout caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 29 September 1996 through 04 October 1997.

### Steelhead size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

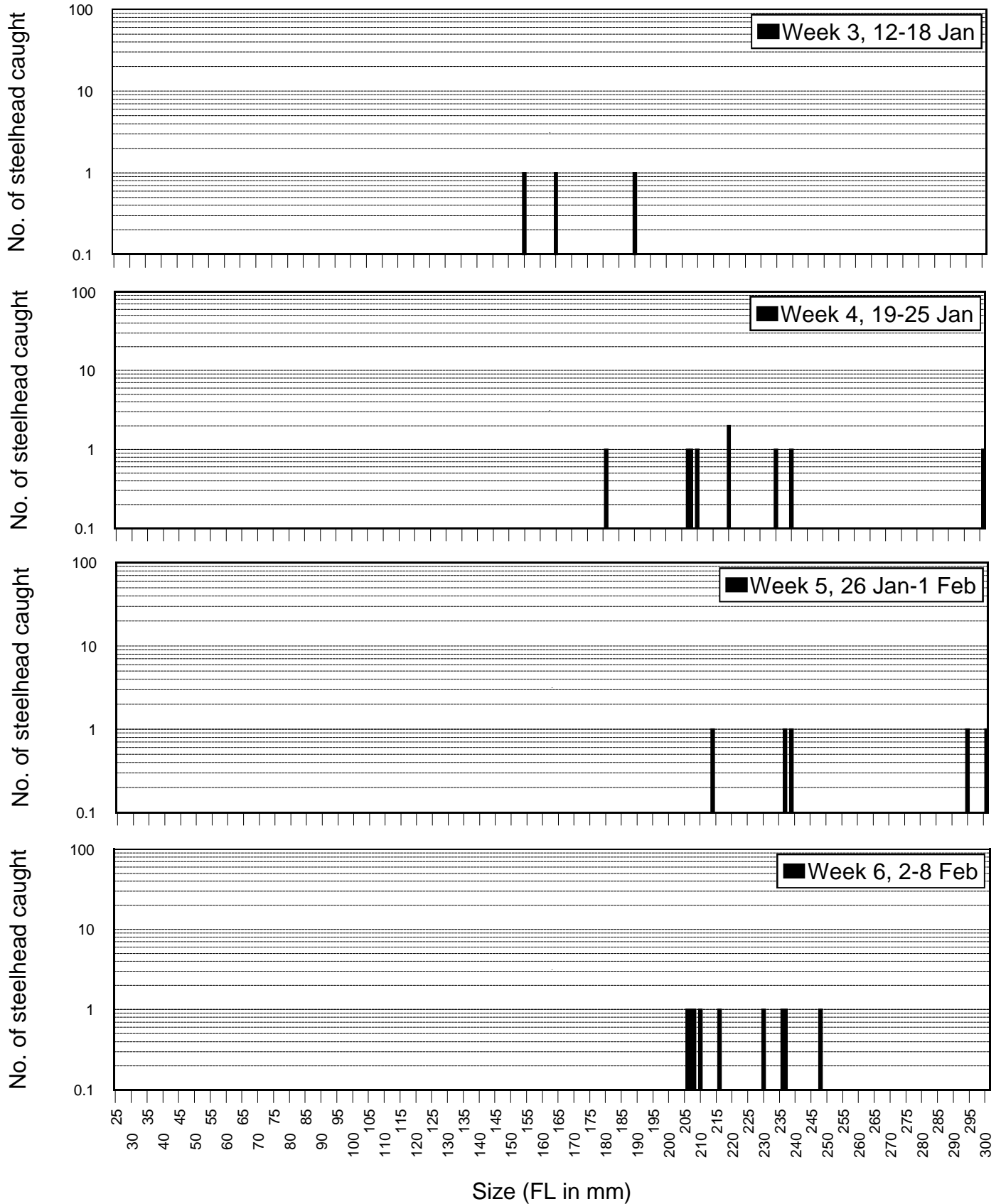


Figure 24. Size distribution of steelhead caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 12 January through 08 February 1997.

### Steelhead size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

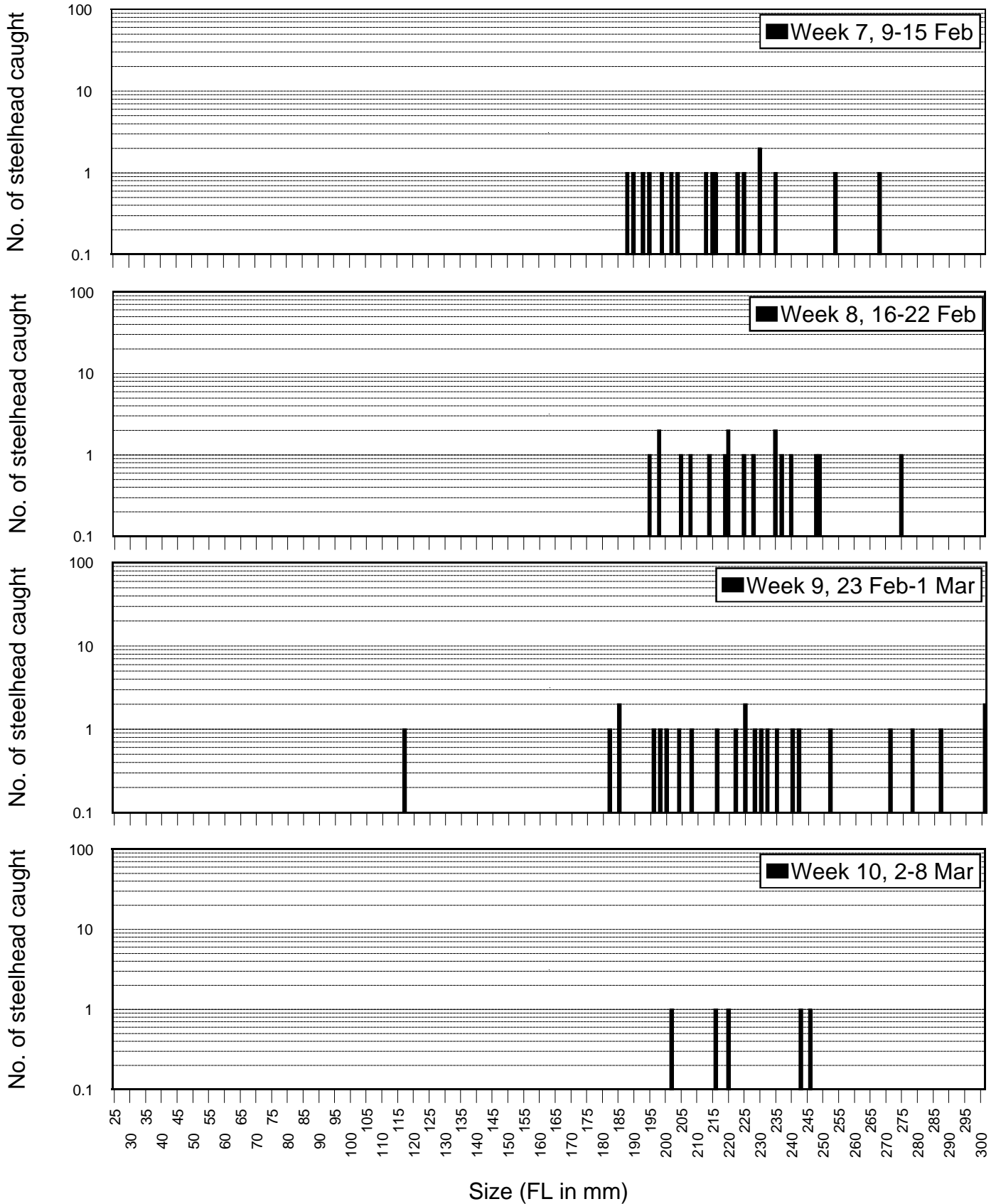


Figure 25. Size distribution of steelhead caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 09 February through 08 March 1997.

## Steelhead size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

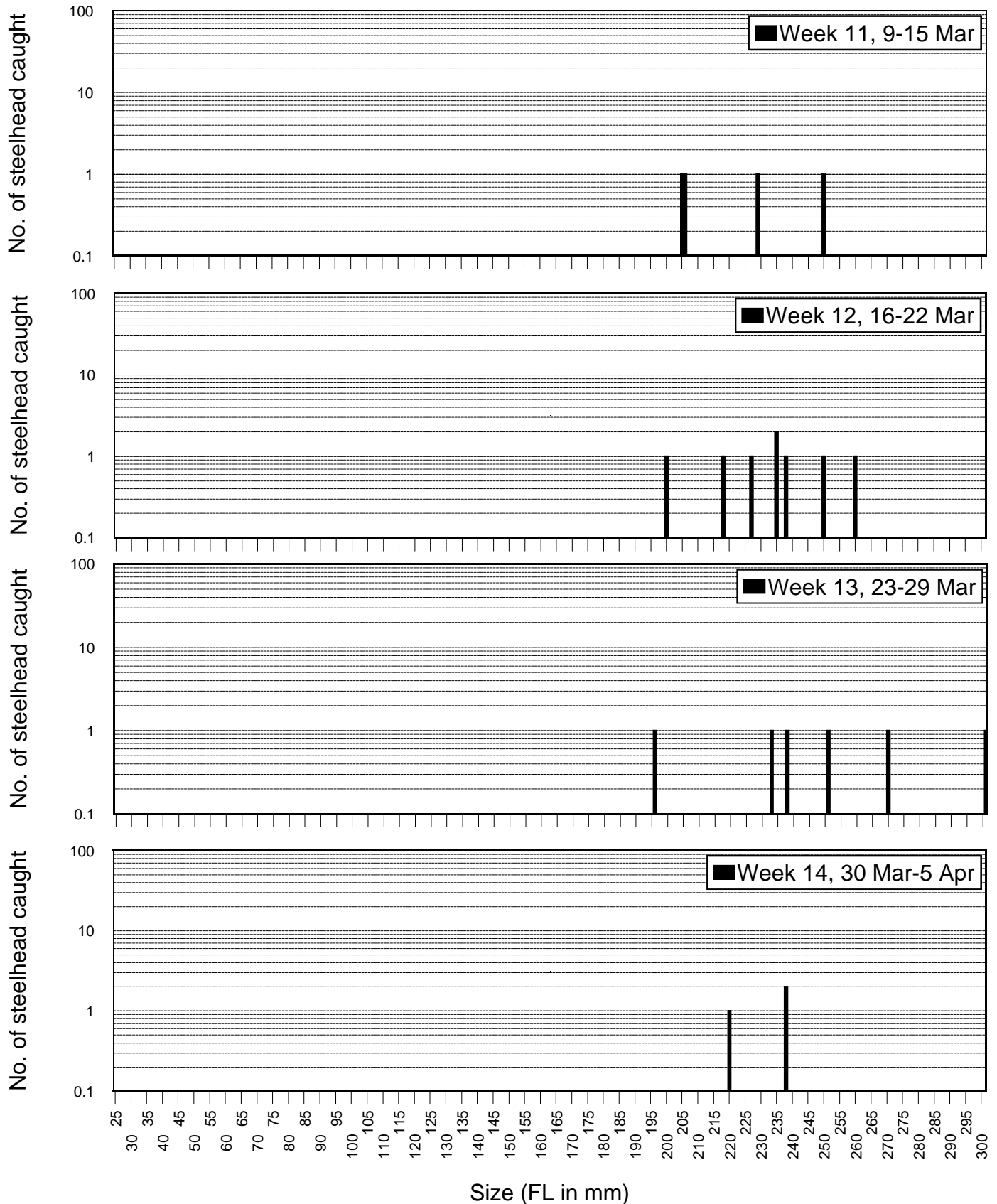


Figure 26. Size distribution of steelhead caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 09 March through 05 April 1997.

### Steelhead size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

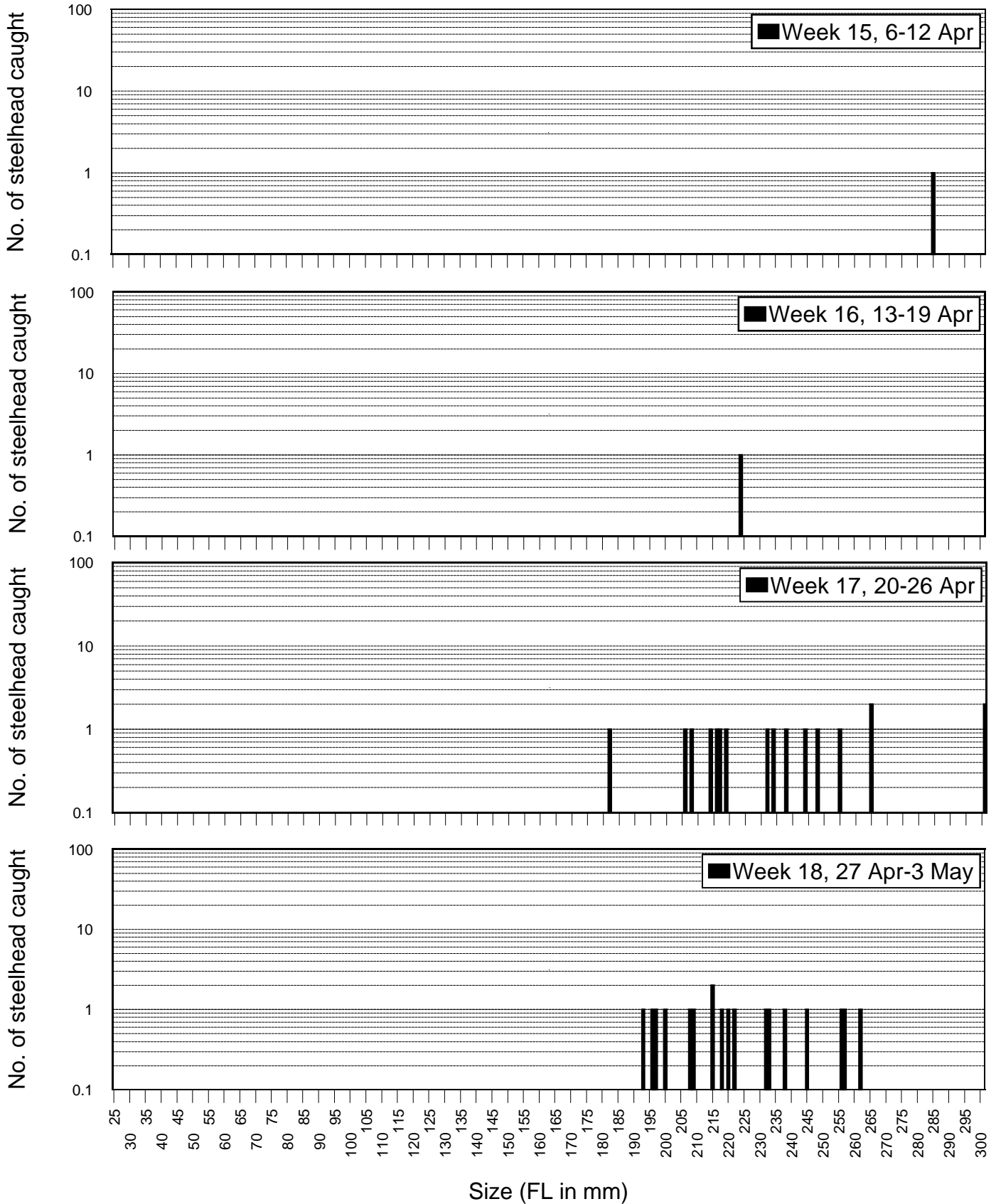


Figure 27. Size distribution of steelhead caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 06 April through 03 May 1997.



## Steelhead size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

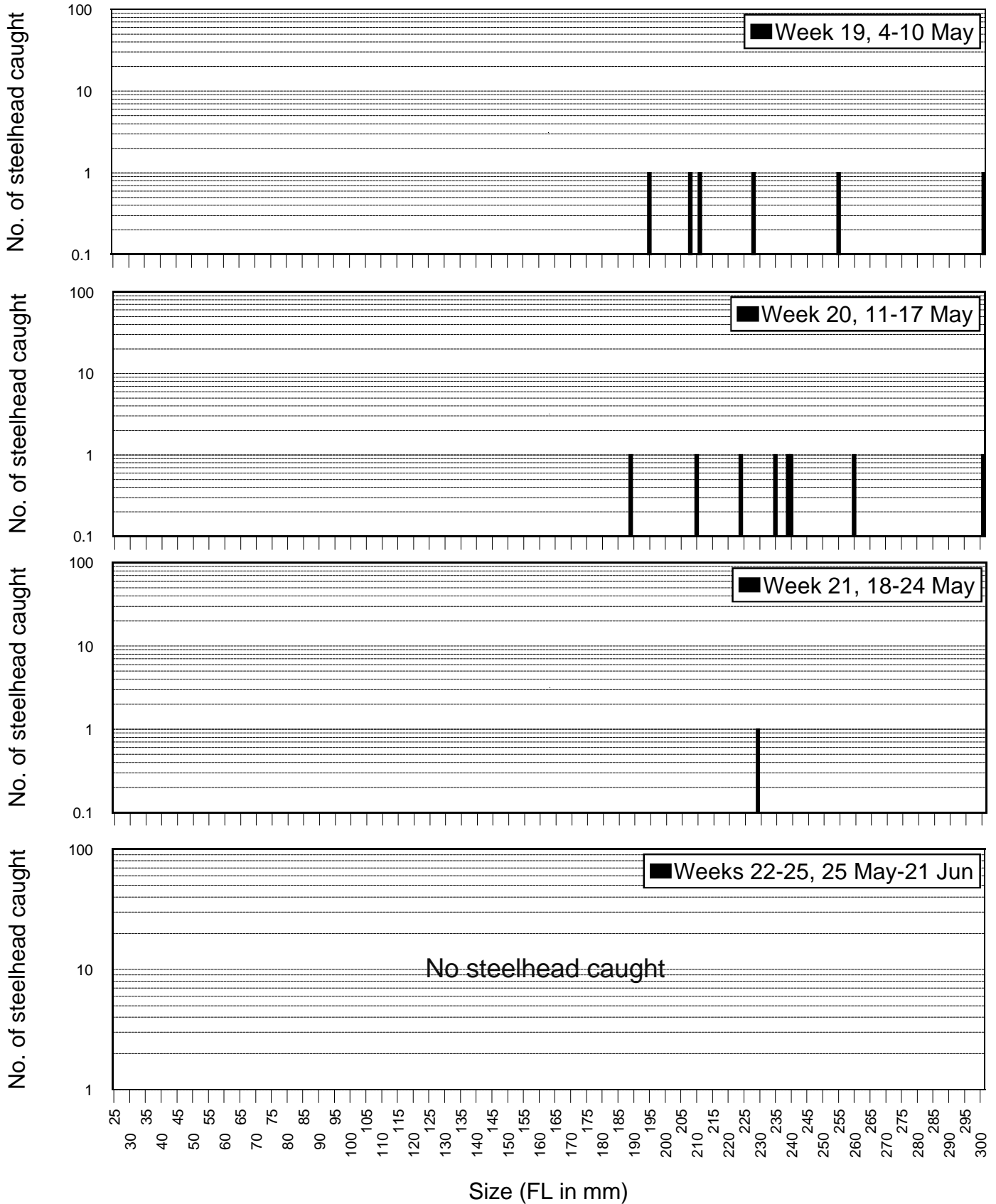


Figure 28. Size distribution of steelhead caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 04 May through 21 June 1997.

### Steelhead size distribution Knights Landing rotary screw traps

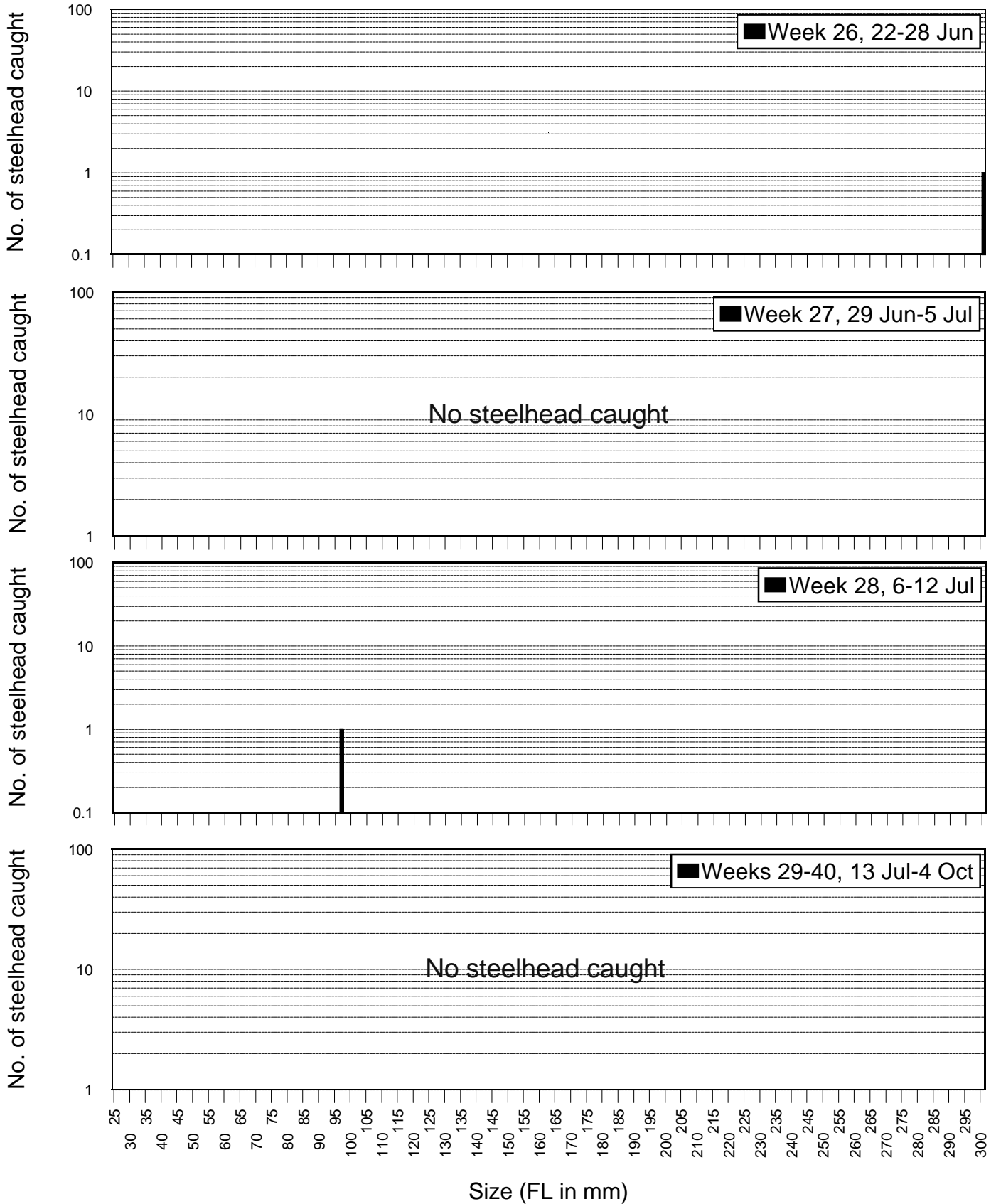


Figure 29. Size distribution of steelhead caught by rotary screw traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 22 June through 04 October 1997.

### Catch distribution of chinook salmon caught by fyke traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River

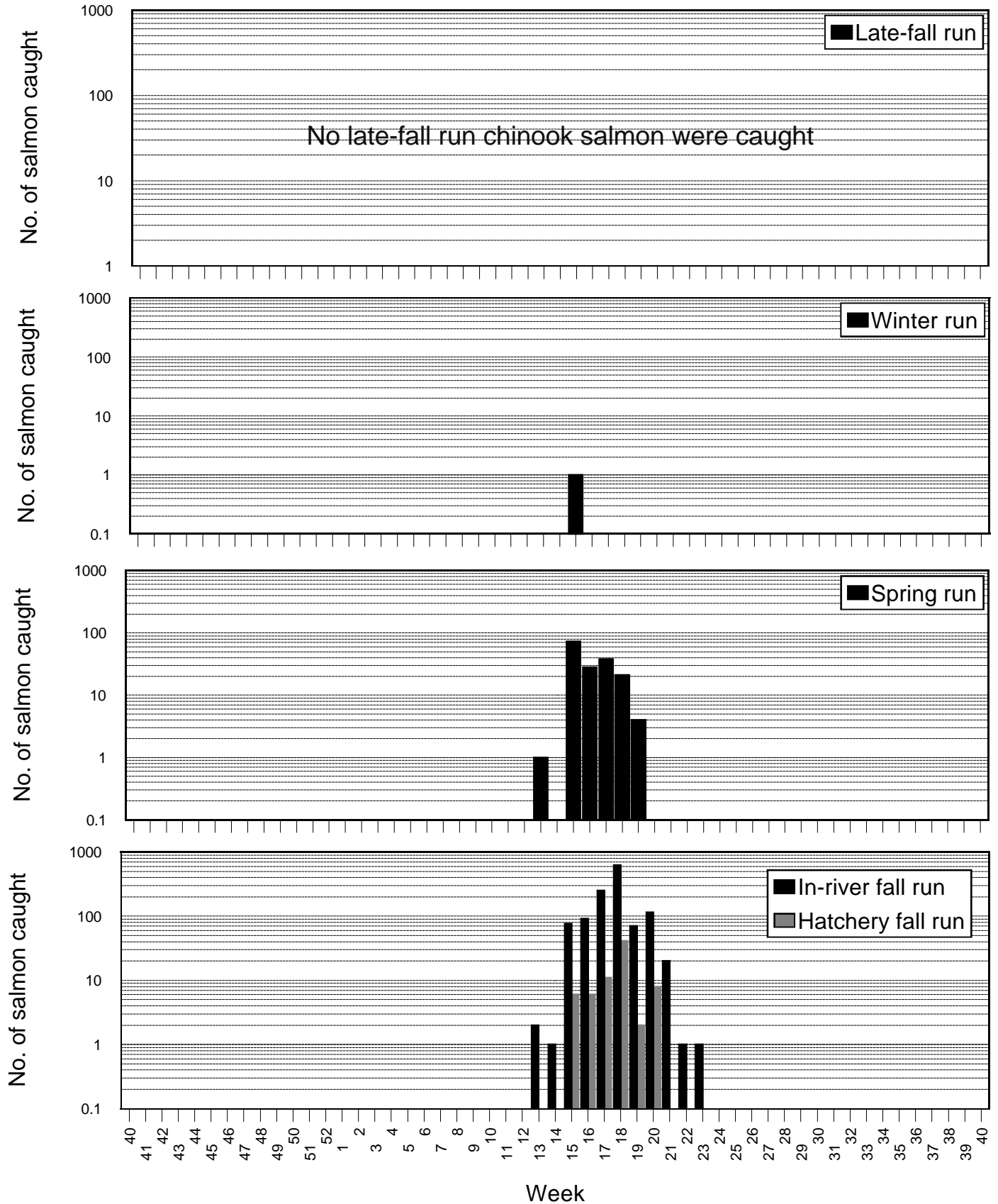


Figure 30. Catch distribution of chinook salmon races caught by fyke traps near Knights Landing, Sacramento River, 29 September 1996 through 4 October 1997.

## RST versus fyke net catch distribution

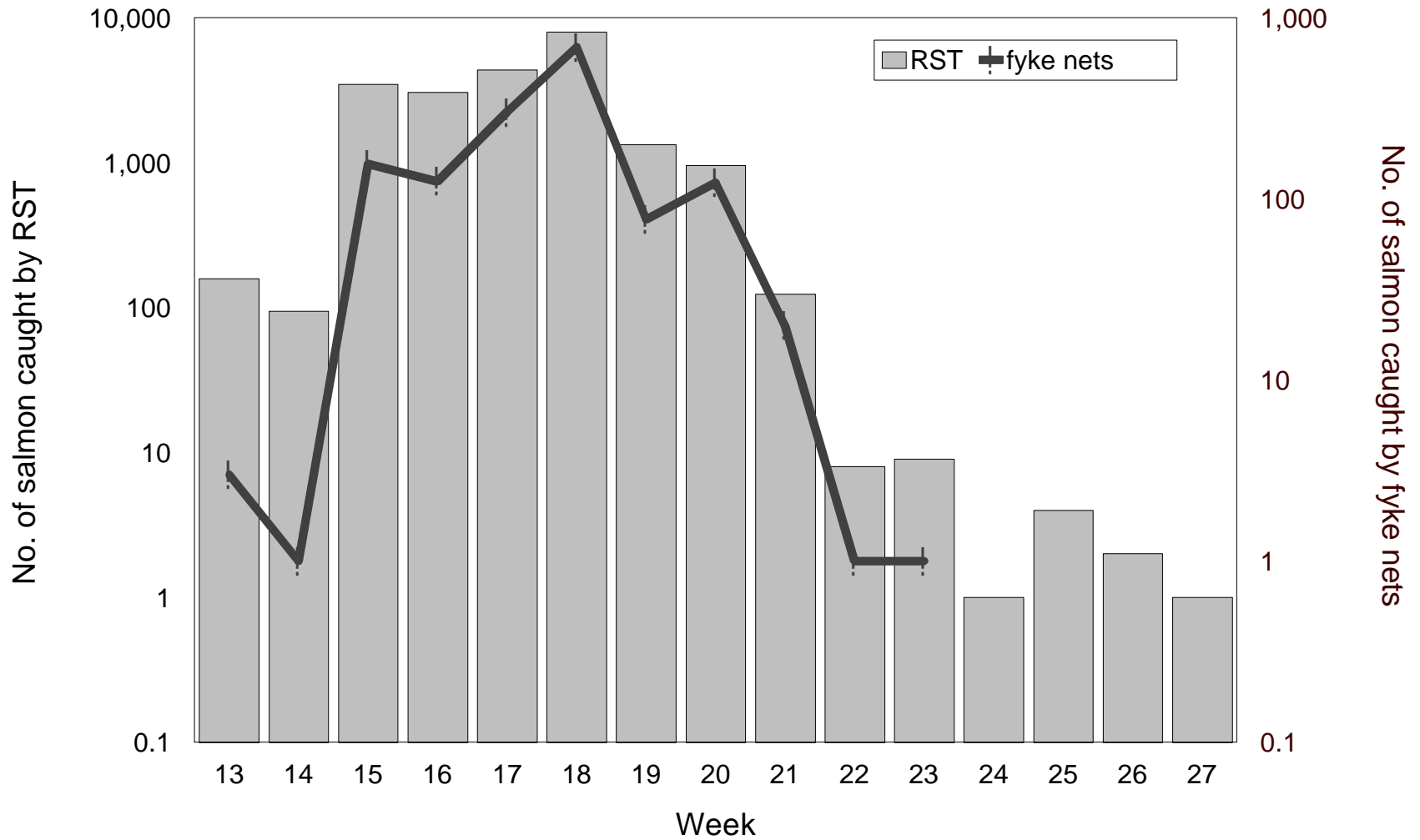


Figure 31. Comparison of juvenile chinook salmon catch distributions for RST and fyke nets when the two gear types were concurrently fishing in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 26 March - 5 June 1997.

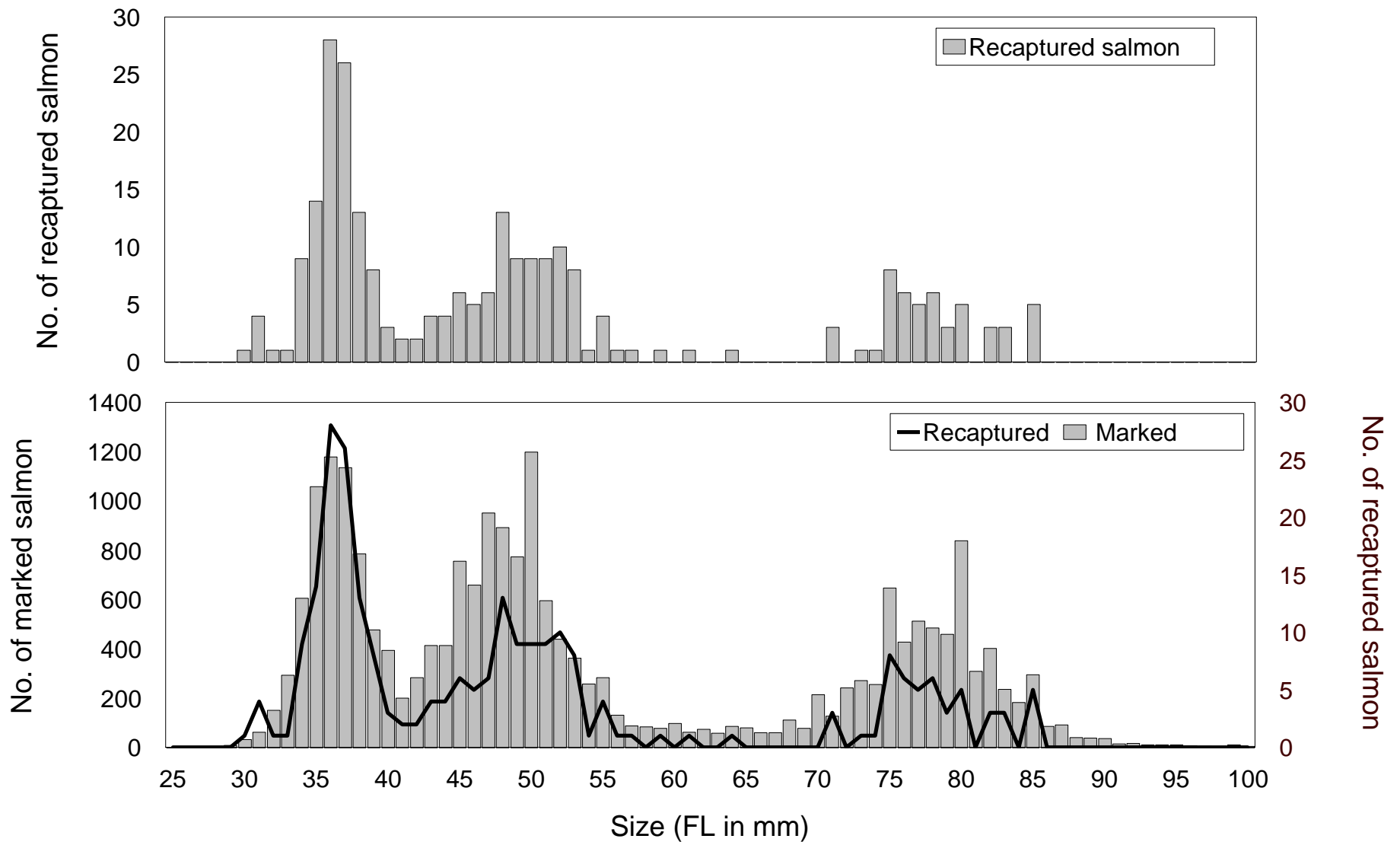
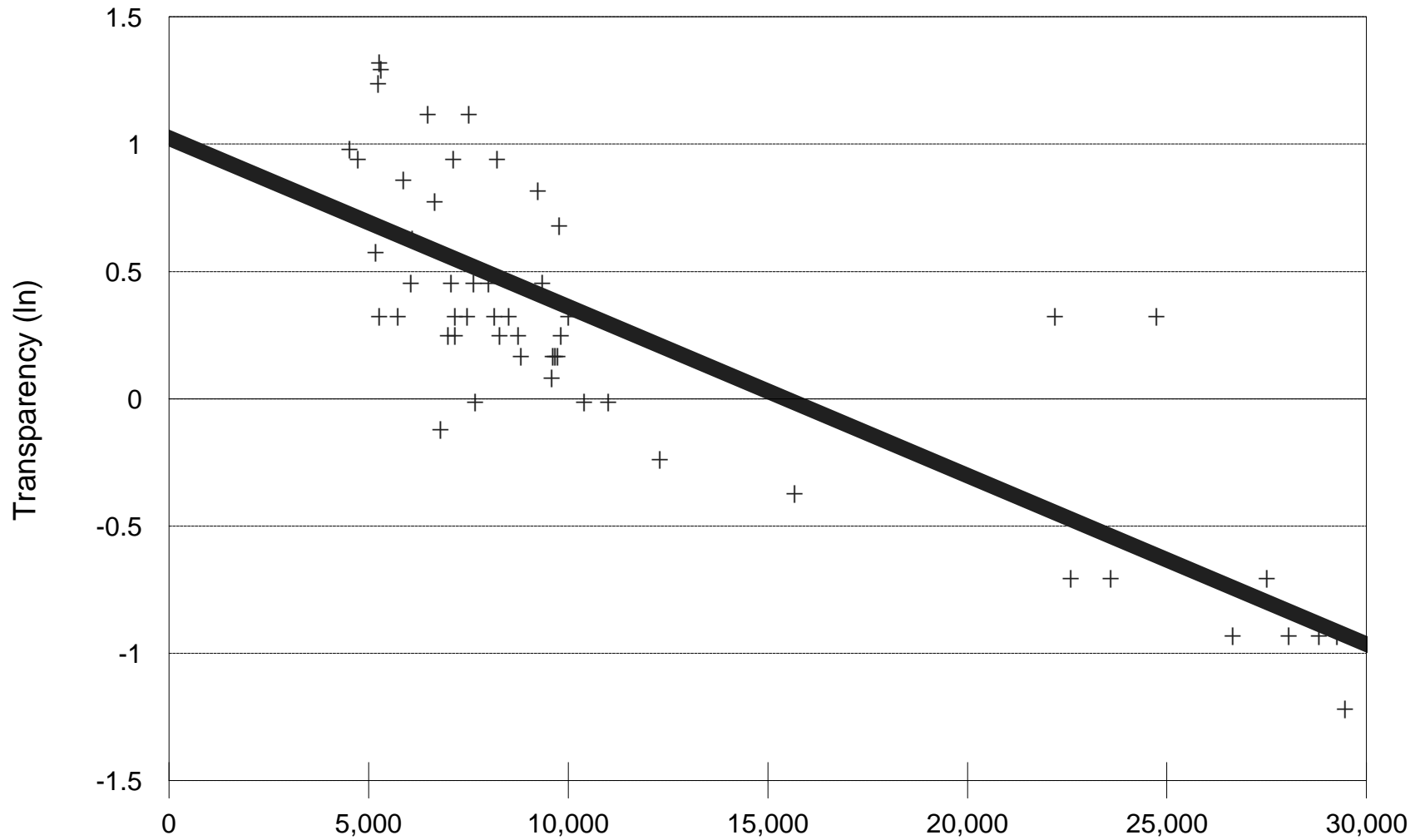


Figure 32. Comparison of length frequency distributions for salmon that were marked and salmon that were recaptured during the trap efficiency evaluations conducted on the Sacramento River near Knights Landing between 24 November 1996 and 10 May 1997.

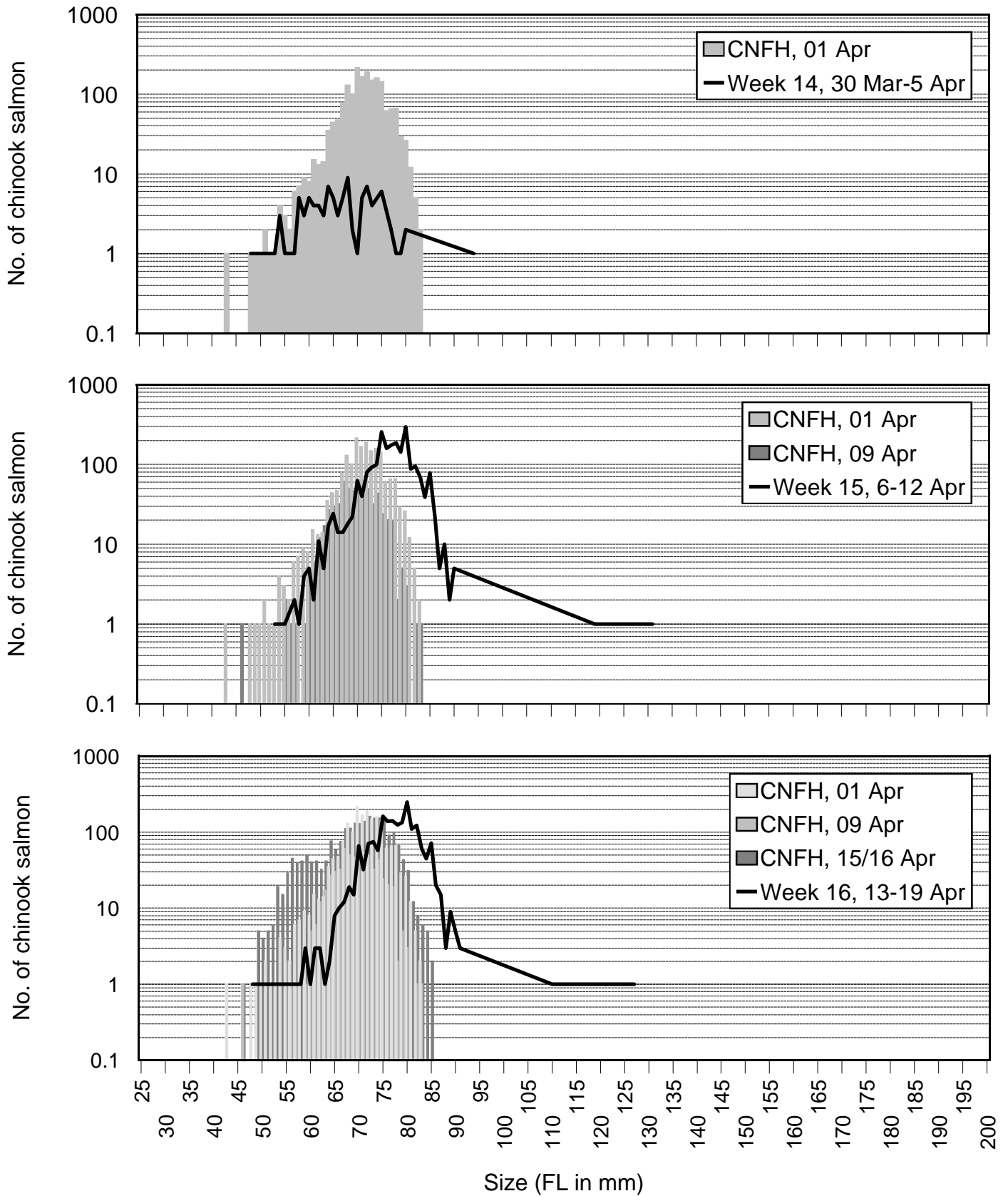
# APPENDIX

# Comparison of water transparency and flow



Appendix Figure 1. Comparison of water transparency (ln of Secchi disk depth) versus flow measured on the Sacramento River near Knights Landing, 29 September 1996 - 4 October 1997.

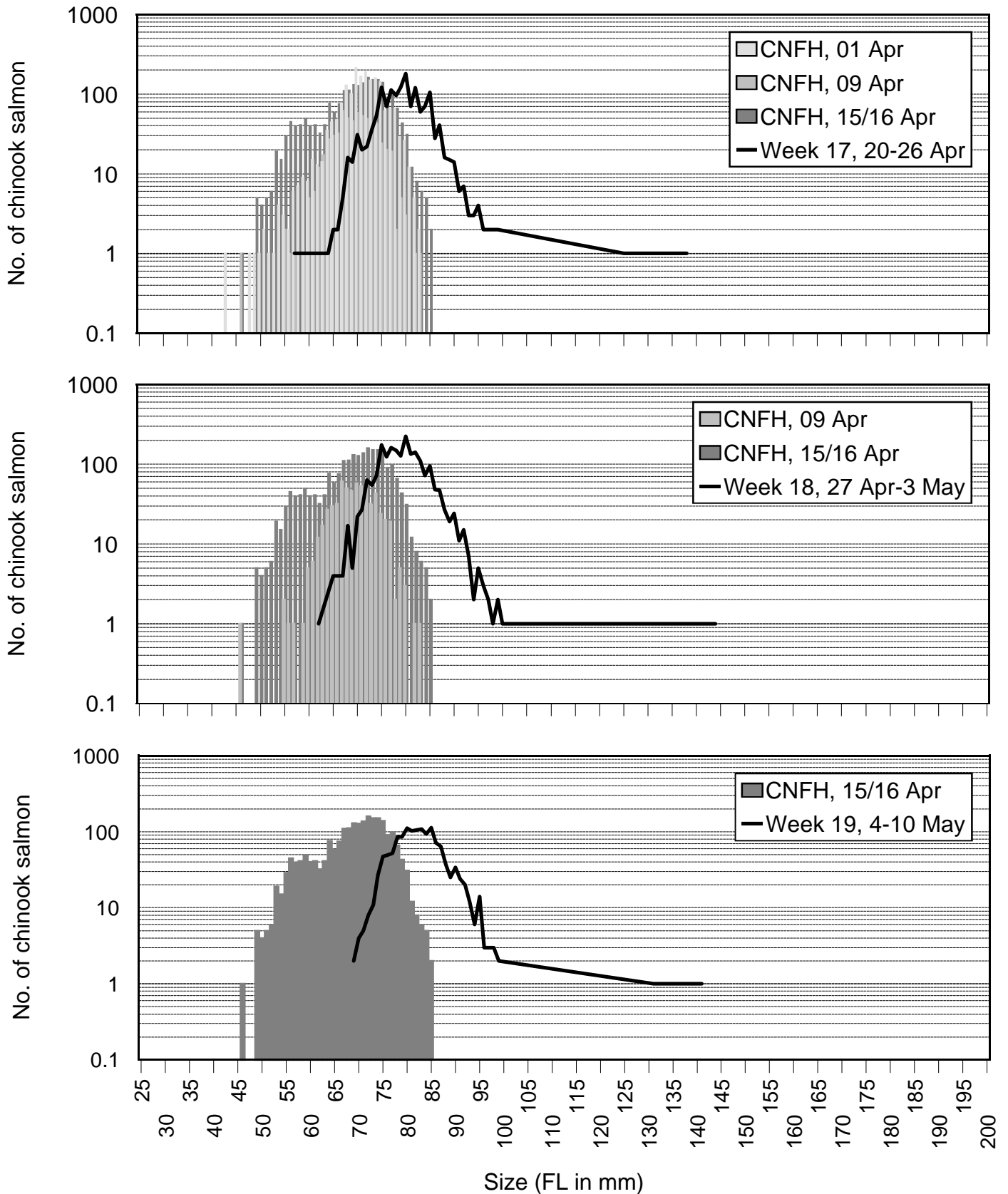
## Size distributions of chinook salmon collected near Knights Landing versus salmon released from Coleman NFH



Appendix Figure 2. Size distribution of chinook salmon collected in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing compared with size distribution of Coleman NFH salmon released 01, 09, and 15/16 April 1997.

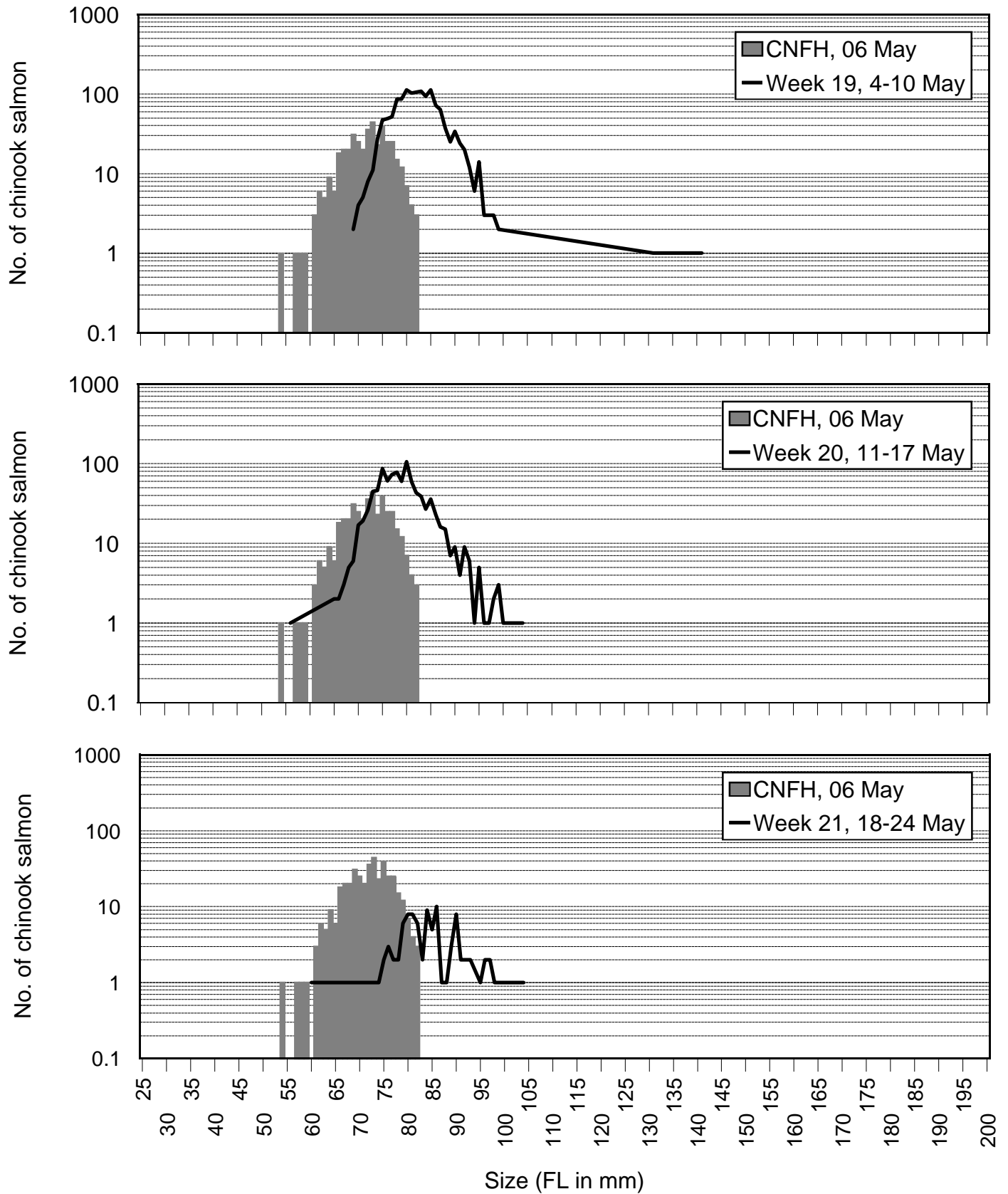


### Size distributions of chinook salmon collected near Knights Landing versus salmon released from Coleman NFH



Appendix Figure 3. Size distribution of chinook salmon collected in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing compared with size distribution of Coleman NFH salmon released 01, 09, and 15/16 April 1997.

### Size distributions of chinook salmon collected near Knights Landing versus salmon released from Coleman NFH



Appendix Figure 4. Size distribution of chinook salmon collected in the Sacramento River near Knights Landing compared with size distribution of Coleman NFH salmon released 06 May 1997.