



## Spring 2015 Root River Weir Summary

The Root River Steelhead Facility (RRSF) was in operation for seven processing dates during the spring 2015 migration, and we captured 774 steelhead between March 19 and April 22. The 2015 steelhead return was down from 2014 but was 29% higher than the 10 year average return.

The number of fish captured at RRSF is a subset of the 2015 steelhead run in the Root River. We do not stop every fish in the river, as they are able to move upstream past the facility before it is operational in early spring, and some fish are able to bypass the facility during the sampling season when the river is at high flows. Therefore, any comparison to past year's processing numbers will not provide a meaningful measure of the overall return of steelhead back to the Root River.

In conjunction with the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility in Kewaunee, we met our egg collection quotas for Chambers Creek and Ganaraska strains of steelhead. Our biological sampling goals were fulfilled, and fish health sampling was conducted for both strains. Fish sacrificed for health checks were donated to the Racine County Food Bank for local distribution.

The spring 2015 RRSF steelhead effort is summarized below.

Captured	Spawned	Eggs Taken	Passed Upstream
774	375 total (201 Chambers and 174 Ganaraska)	326,386 Chambers 328,318 Ganaraska	711

Wisconsin DNR would like to acknowledge the support of Salmon Unlimited in keeping the Root River Steelhead Facility operational. Special thanks also go out to the volunteers from Salmon Unlimited for daily opening and closing of the viewing window at the facility.

For additional Lake Michigan fisheries information, please visit our website:  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/lakemichigan>

For fishing information, please call our 24-hour hotline at (414) 382-7920.

We will resume operations at the weir in the fall.

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