



## State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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To: All Interested Groups/WDNR Staff

From: Cheryl Peterson – WDNR Lake Michigan Fisheries Work Unit - Milwaukee

Subject: Fall 2008 Root River Weir Summary

The Root River Steelhead Facility (RRSF) was in operation for 9 processing dates during the fall 2008 fish migration. We were able to capture and process 4,340 fish between October 13 and November 10. Despite very low stream flows all season, good numbers of coho salmon returned to the facility. We not only collected coho eggs for our own hatcheries, but also collected chinook and coho eggs for Illinois and Indiana. Our biological sampling goals were met, and fish health sampling was conducted. The Fall 2008 Root River effort is summarized below.

	Captured	Spawned	Eggs taken	Passed Upstream
Chinook	1,504	486	960,000 for IL	1,413
Coho	2,581	1,955	890,000 for WI* 1,000,000 for IL and IN	2,071
Rainbow	10	0	0	10
Brown	245	0	0	243
Totals	4,340	2,441		3,737

\*An additional 590,000 coho eggs were obtained at the Kewaunee facility for a total of 1.1 million for Wisconsin and 1.3 million for Illinois and Indiana.

In 2007 stocking numbers were reallocated within the region to increase coho stocking in the Root River by 33,000 fish per year. Those fish matured in Fall 2008 and no doubt contributed to the relatively strong return.

We will resume operations at the weir in the spring. Please visit our website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/lakemich/rootriverreport.htm> for the latest information.