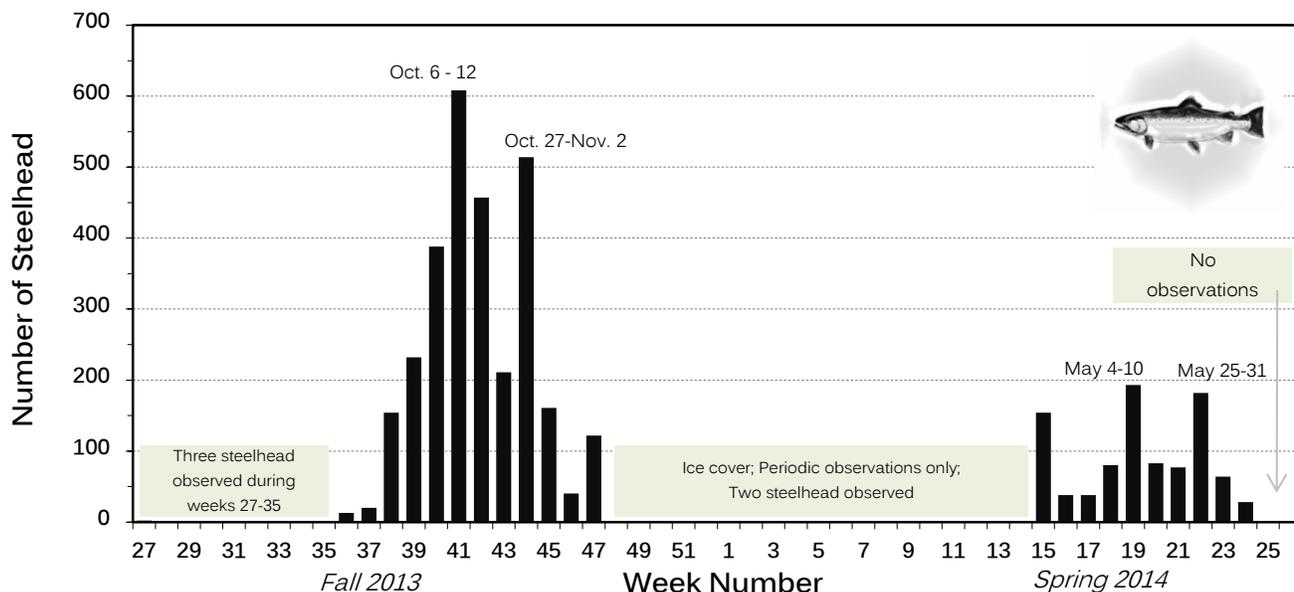


# FALL 2013-SPRING 2014 BRULE RIVER STEELHEAD UPDATE



The graph above shows the weekly run timing of steelhead counted at the Brule River lamprey barrier/fishway during the 2013-2014 migration season. The fall 2013 peak occurred during the second week of October (Week 41). The spring 2014 run had a similar three-peak pattern to 2013, however the 2014 peaks were lower in number and up to two weeks later than in 2013.

The table below shows the run totals over the past several years. In 2013-2014, 3,861 steelhead were counted passing the fishway: 2,924 in the fall and 937 in the spring. Beginning with the 2010-2011 season and continuing through this year, only naturally reproduced steelhead were observed.

YEAR	Number (Fall)	Number (Spring)	Total (Year)	Wild Portion
2007-08	6345	1215	7560	7282
2008-09	6640	1096	7736	7599
2009-10	8130	761	8891	8795
2010-11	6488	1584	8072	8072
2011-12	2933	1739	4672	4672
2012-13	4594	2177	6771	6771
2013-14	2924	937	3861	3861

The persistent spring snowfall, snowpack, and cold air temperatures likely had a strong influence on the spring run. Ice was abundant on the lower river from the first week of December through mid-April, and ice was present along the Lake Superior shoreline near the river mouth through May. In fact, ice was observed on Lake Superior from late-November 2013 through early June 2014, one of the longest spans of ice observations on record. River flow was relatively high and turbid throughout much of the spring migration season as well as the latter two weeks of the early fishing season (over 600 cubic feet per second at the USGS gage for a few weeks in late-April through mid-May and over 200 cfs from early April through mid-June).