

**Scheerer, Paul D., Peggy S. Kavanagh, and Kim K. Jones. "Oregon Chub investigations annual progress report." Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Salem: September 17, 2003 – July 31, 2004. (Reviewed by Aria DalMolin)**

This report summarizes the findings of the 2003-2004 investigations on the health of the Oregon Chub within the Willamette River basin. The report goes over the objectives for 2003-2004, the accomplishments, the findings of 2003-2004, the methods that were used, the results from the tests, and finally, questions for future research on the endangered Oregon Chub.

The goal of these annual investigations is to eventually downlist and delist the Oregon Chub from its "endangered" status. In order to be downlisted to a "threatened" species there must be ten or more populations of at least 500 adult fish. All populations must exhibit a stable or increasing trend for five years. At least three of the populations must be located in each of the three sub-basins (Middle Fork Willamette River, Santiam River, and mainstream Willamette River and tributaries).

The findings were that eight populations in 2003 met these criteria. This report relates to both native and non-native fish in the Willamette River basin because the Oregon Chub is a native fish to the area and is experiencing a loss of habitat partially because of the introduction of non-native species to the Willamette Valley, such as the largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappies, and western mosquitofish. The overall conclusion of this article was that the Oregon Chub populations declined drastically in 2001 because of a drought and are still declining despite efforts to introduce new populations of Oregon Chub in different places along the Willamette River. The species is still classified as "endangered."

## **Critique**

This report was very clear and concise and provided a lot of information on the Oregon chub including habitat, physical characteristic, and reasons for its decline. The methods used to collect the data for this report were very well explained and it went into depth on the results that they found using charts graphs, and maps of the area. This is the most recent information that I have been able to find on the species. However, I wish they had gone over specifically why the non-native fish have such a great effect on the decline of this species because that is not perfectly clear to me throughout my readings. Overall, a well-written, easy to comprehend recent report on the native Oregon chub.

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