

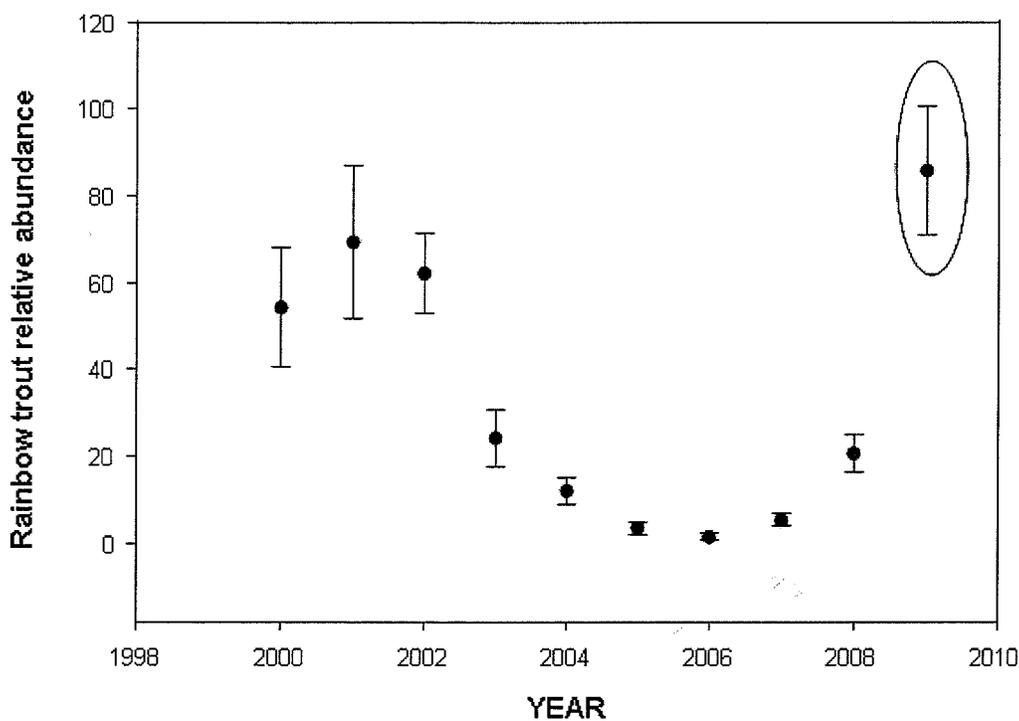
**Technical Work Group Meeting  
March 17-18, 2009  
Phoenix, AZ**

Location: Arizona Department of Water Resources, Phoenix, AZ

Preliminary data update on AGFD Mainstem Colorado River fish monitoring

The first of two mainstem COR monitoring trips began 02/27/2009. These trips are designed to detect changes in non-native fish populations and intensively sample in the non-native fish removal reach (around the Little Colorado River). Considering the upcoming non-native fish removal trip planned for April-May, 2009, the data below were hiked out early to assess the current condition of the fish population. These data are considered preliminary.

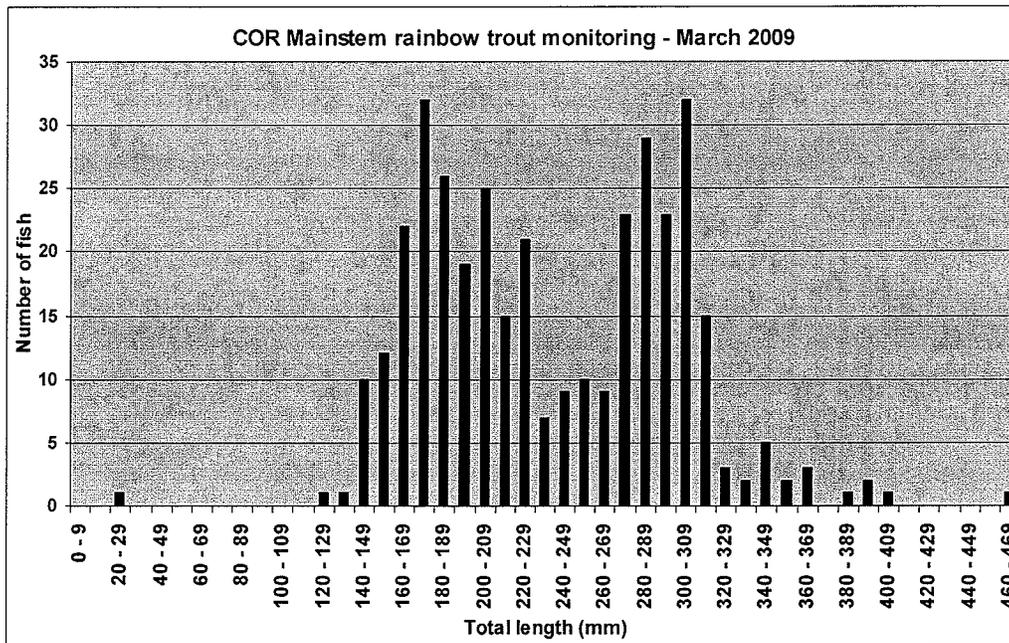
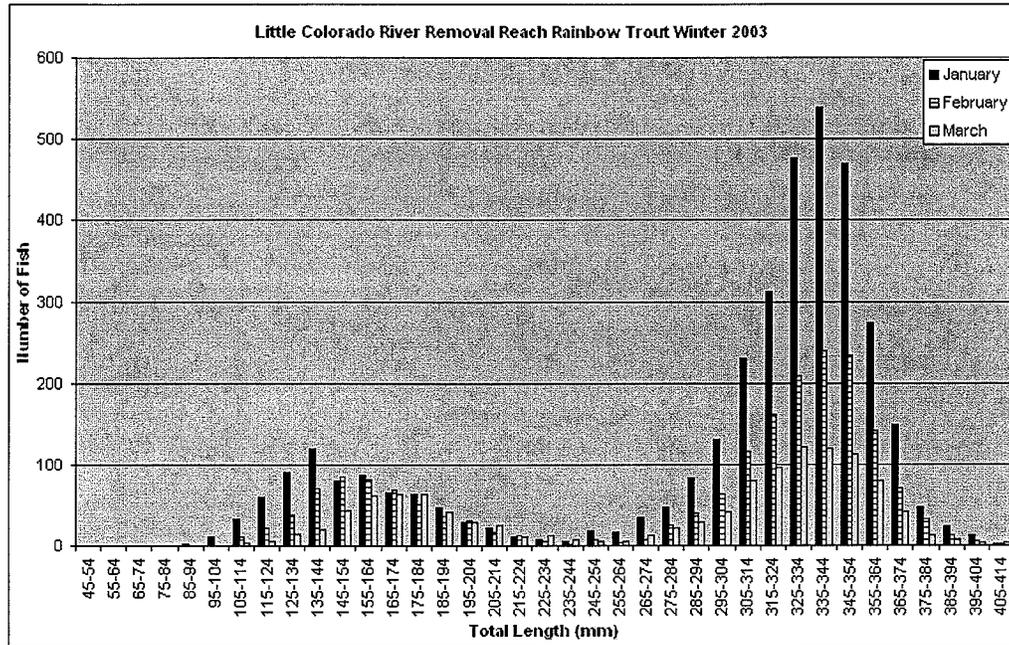
*Rainbow trout relative abundance estimates, 2000-current*



Data for 2009 consists of only those areas sampled between Kwagunt Rapid (RM 56) and the LCR. Turbidity was high below the LCR and thus, catch rate information is likely confounded. To be comparable to previous years, 2009 estimate is likely half than what is presented here. Nevertheless, the 2009 estimate is likely similar to estimates observed in 2003.

*Size distribution: Early removal vs. current*

Figure courtesy of Lew Coggins, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center



It appears we currently have a pulse of smaller fish (bottom figure) versus the fish captured during the early stages of the removal (top figure). The next of these trips launches March 25.