

## 2014 Salmonwatching Brief Summary

We had 48 participants in the Salmonwatching program in 2014! This was the highest number yet.

Together as a group we counted 259 fish and catalogued 77 observations of redds--- this

translated into 34 unique redds (some were observed more than once) with 23 on Judd and 11 on Shinglemill! We also were able to extend our salmonwatching season into January with a few diehard volunteers (thanks Peter Cummings, the Petersen family, and Kelly Keenan) and found that some of our chum keep coming up through January. Through our observations we have been able to pinpoint reaches that are most used by



salmon and will be working up a map of critical spawning areas for the future based on your counts and observations. I extend a big thank you to volunteer Kathy Bosler who painstakingly went through all our salmon datasheets and recorded the data in our database!

Salmonwatching data is most useful for finding out where fish are and when they arrive and how long they keep coming in. However it is still interesting to look at numbers of salmon observed each year even though this is a little trickier to interpret in terms of actual salmon numbers in our creeks. Below are the trends in graph form as they compare to previous years for our two largest creeks. I have included the number of observers each year as changes in observer effort can affect how many fish are counted.

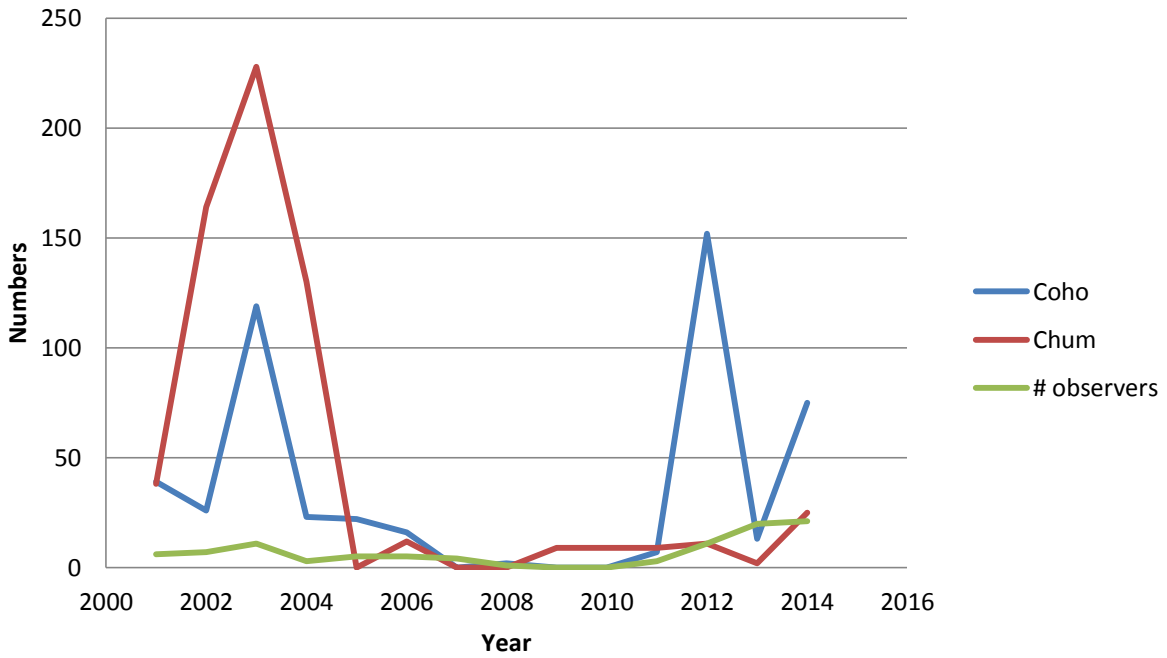
Fisher Creek has also gotten regular observations of coho in 2013 and 2014. Last year we had watchers on Christensen, Mileta, Raab's, Ellis and Cove creek as well but no salmon were observed. We'd like to continue monitoring these creeks this year as some have had restoration activity that may increase the likelihood they would be used by returning salmon.

Thanks to all of you for helping us out! Looking forward to another amazing season in 2015!

Sincerely,

Bianca Perla, Director Vashon Nature Center LLC.

### Judd Salmonwatching Trends 2001-2014



### Shinglemill Salmonwatching Trends 2001-2014

