

Presentation to Casitas Municipal  
Water District Board of Directors on  
preliminary results of the 2009  
monitoring and evaluation for the  
Robles Fish Facility.

By  
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and  
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27 January 2010

# 2009 Robles Monitoring and Evaluation Progress Report



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# Robles Fish Passage Facility Monitoring

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graph TD; Root[Robles Fish Passage Facility Monitoring] --> BM[Biological Monitoring]; Root --> FO[Facility Operations]; BM --> UI[Upstream Impediments]; BM --> FA[Fish Attraction]; BM --> FP[Fish Passage]; UI --> SM[Sandbar Monitoring];
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The diagram is an organizational chart for the Robles Fish Passage Facility Monitoring. It features a hierarchical structure with a dark blue background and a wavy pattern. The top-level box is green with yellow text. It branches into two red boxes with yellow text. The left red box further branches into three olive boxes with yellow text. The first olive box branches into a cyan box with black text. The background has a dark blue gradient with lighter blue wavy lines representing water.

Biological  
Monitoring

Facility  
Operations

Upstream Impediments

Sandbar Monitoring

Fish Attraction

Fish Passage

# Biological Monitoring





# Upstream Migration Impediment Evaluation

**Objective:** Assess factors that may impede steelhead's ability to migrate to the Robles Fish Passage Facility.

**2008-09:** Physical stream surveys were completed (24 km), 8 sites were selected for evaluation by Biological Committee.



# Impediment Site Selection Process



346 Looking US at head of unit



305 - Looking US - water flows from top right to bottom left



268 - Looking US from tail of unit



234 - looking US from unit 233



204 - Looking at LB from RB at head of unit



168 - looking US from LB of unit 167

# Impediment Sites

River km	Habitat Type <sup>a</sup>	Site Description	Length (m)	Slope (%)	Percent Substrate <sup>b</sup>					
					SO	SD	GR	CB	BD	BR
0		River mouth				100				
7.5	RI	Near treatment plant	16.4	2.8	10	10	15	45	20	0
11	RB	Near Casitas Springs at end of levy	22.0	3.7	10	5	10	65	10	0
13	RI	0.5 km upstream of San Antonio Cr. confluence	23.8	5.0	0	0	0	15	85	0
15	RI	0.4 km downstream of Santa Ana Blvd. bridge	8.4	7.0	0	5	5	45	45	0
17	CB	1.4 km upstream of Santa Ana Blvd. bridge	26.1	5.0	0	0	0	65	35	0
19	RB	1.1 km upstream of Hwy 150 bridge	31.6	2.0	5	0	10	40	45	0
22	CB	1.2 km downstream of Robles Fish Facility	9.2	10.0	0	0	10	45	45	0

<sup>a</sup> The habitat types are: RB = rapid with protruding boulders, RI = riffle, and CB = cascade over boulders.

<sup>b</sup> The substrate types are: SO = silt and organics, SD = sand, GR = gravel, CB = cobble, BD = boulders, and BR = bedrock.



# Sandbar Monitoring

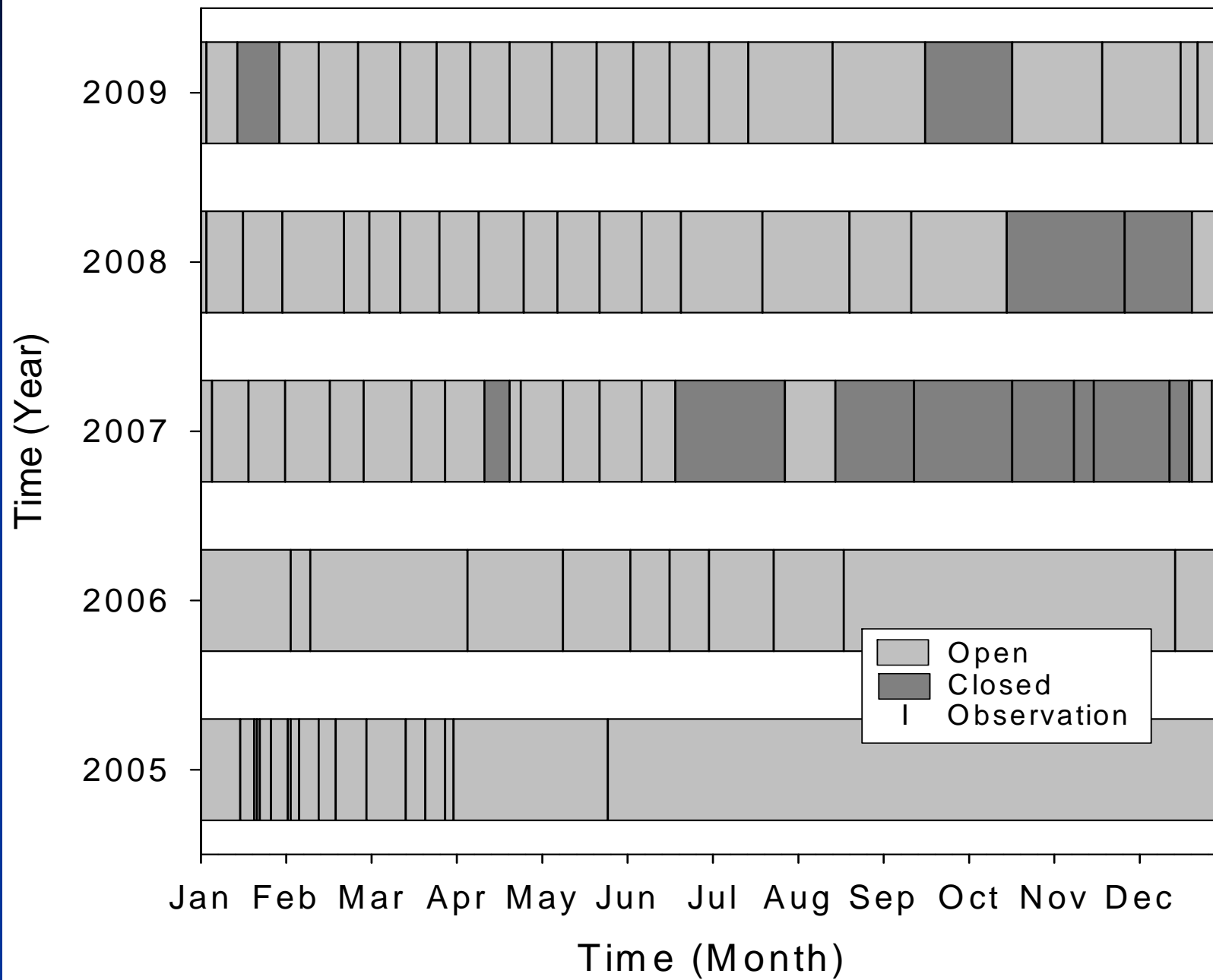
Objective: Monitor the timing and frequency of sandbar breaching to determine the initiation of the fish passage augmentation season.



2009: The sandbar was closed during mid January at low tides. The sandbar was open the remainder of the passage season.







## Common Name and Number of Birds Observed

Date	Time (24h)	Gull	Cormorant	Tern	Pelican	Egret	Grebe	Heron	Merganser	Kingfisher	Total
18-Jul-08	13:08	166	7	34	7	0	0	1	0	0	215
18-Aug-08	11:30	256	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	266
09-Sep-08	13:40	310	10	115	0	3	0	0	0	0	438
13-Oct-08	10:25	153	9	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	166
24-Nov-08	11:40	164	33	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	199
18-Dec-08	10:50	147	19	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	172
13-Jan-09	14:25	313	0	4	17	0	0	2	0	0	336
28-Jan-09	12:40	375	23	0	35	1	4	0	0	0	438
11-Feb-09	13:15	105	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	123
24-Feb-09	12:35	240	17	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	261
12-Mar-09	11:10	78	53	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	135
25-Mar-09	09:00	188	16	0	67	2	0	0	2	0	275
06-Apr-09	10:52	311	30	15	16	2	0	0	0	0	374
20-Apr-09	10:47	235	45	41	10	0	0	0	0	0	331
05-May-09	14:00	349	47	31	41	1	0	0	0	0	469
21-May-09	14:04	253	50	7	18	0	0	0	1	0	329
03-Jun-09	14:01	81	42	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	132
16-Jun-09	12:43	80	30	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	121
30-Jun-09	12:52	46	13	6	5	5	0	1	0	0	76
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,850</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,856</b>

# Fish Attraction Evaluation

**Objective:** Determine if migrants are holding immediately downstream of the Robles Facility during the fish passage augmentation season.

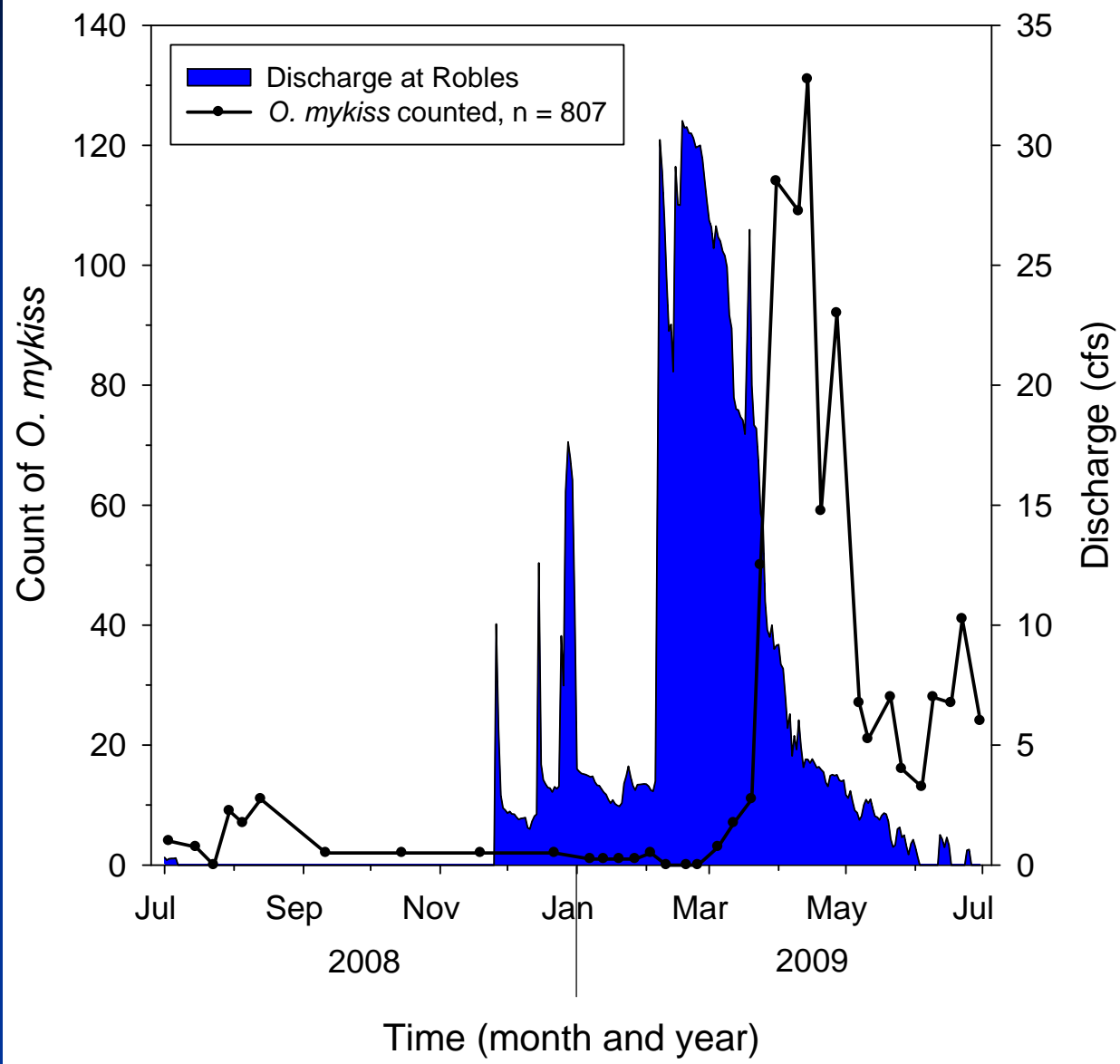


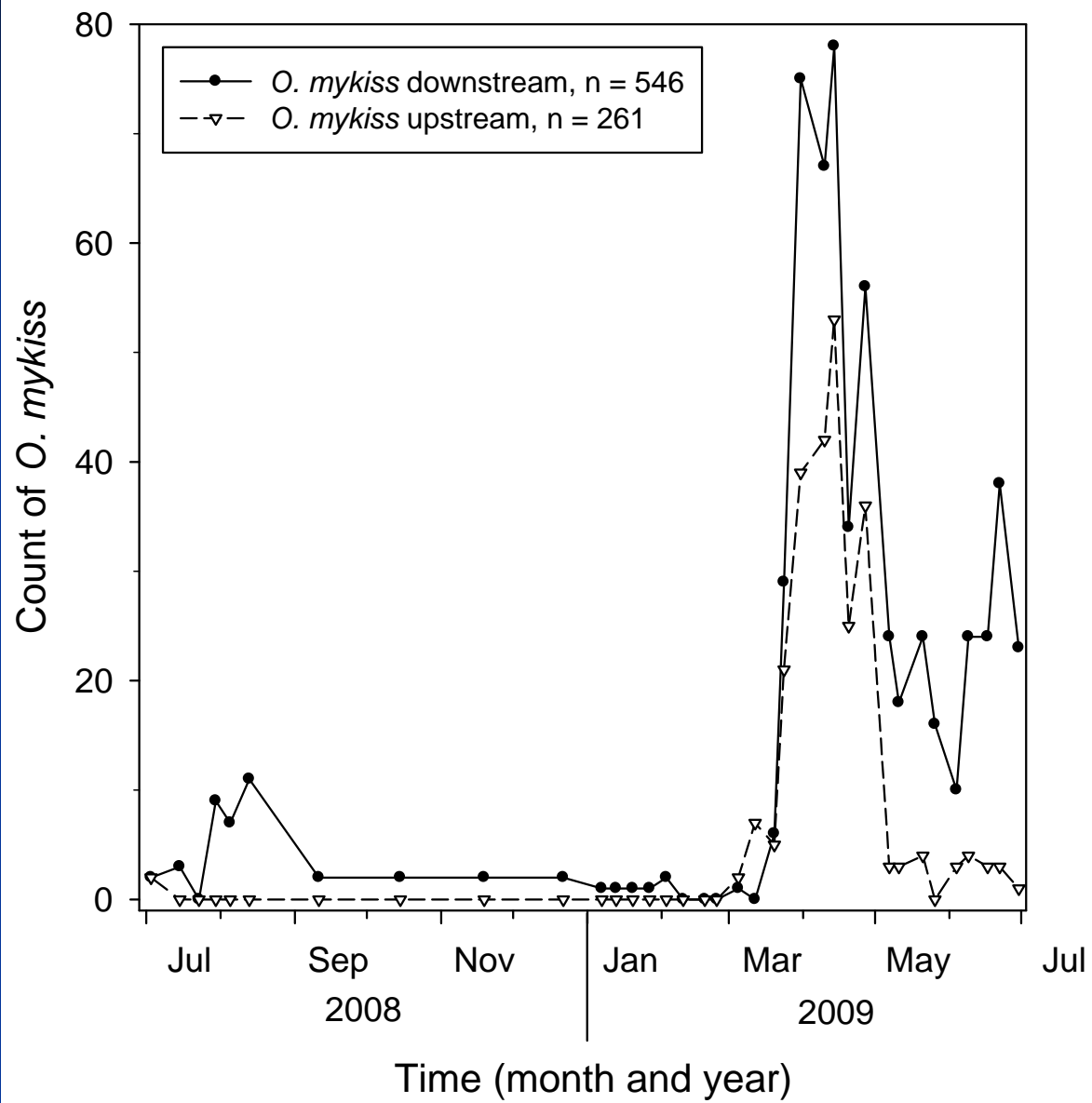
**2009:** A total of 807 *O. mykiss* were counted. Counts peaked in mid April at 131. No adults were observed.







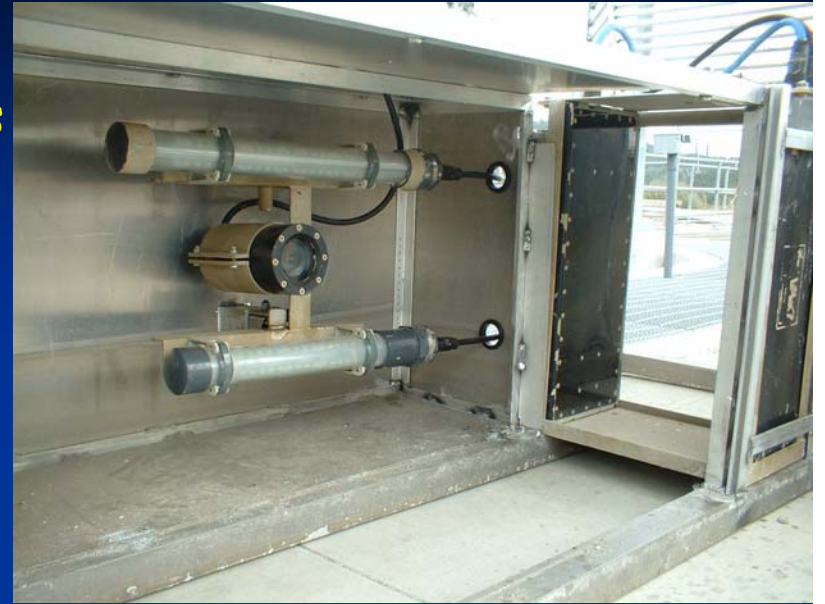






# Fish Passage Monitoring

**Objective:** Determine the relative numbers and timing of upstream and downstream migrating fish using the Robles Facility.



**2009:** No adult steelhead detected.

Downstream *O. mykiss* = 42

Upstream *O. mykiss* = 55



## Upstream or Downstream Riverwatcher Detection

**Fish**—based on video and(or) silhouette.

**False Detection**—based on video and(or) silhouette and determined to be a false detection caused from debris, turbidity, or turbulence.

No Video Confirmation

Video Confirmation

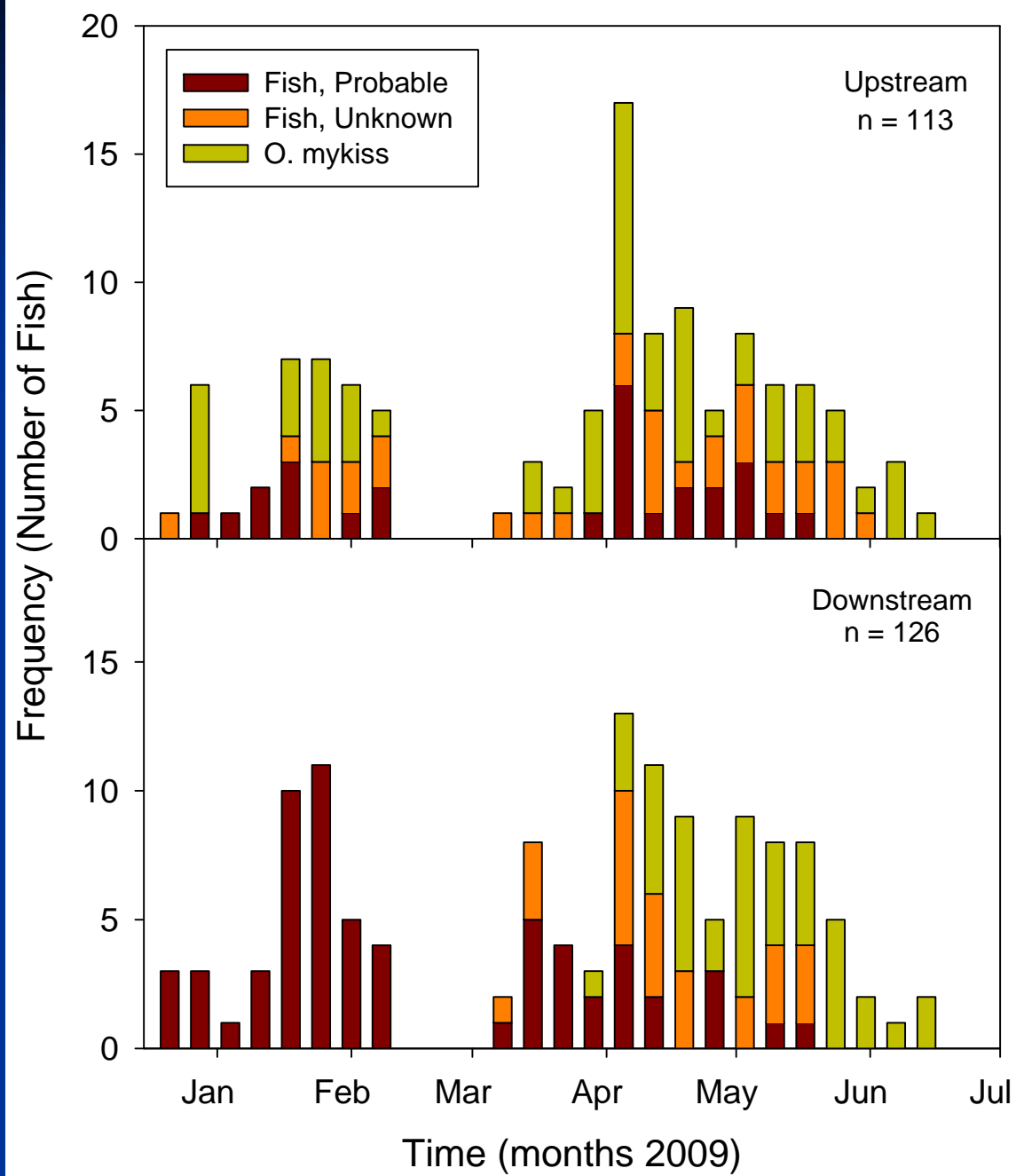
**Adult steelhead**—based on video, silhouette, size, and(or) other adult characteristics.

***O. mykiss***—based on video, silhouette, size, and(or) other *O. mykiss* characteristics.

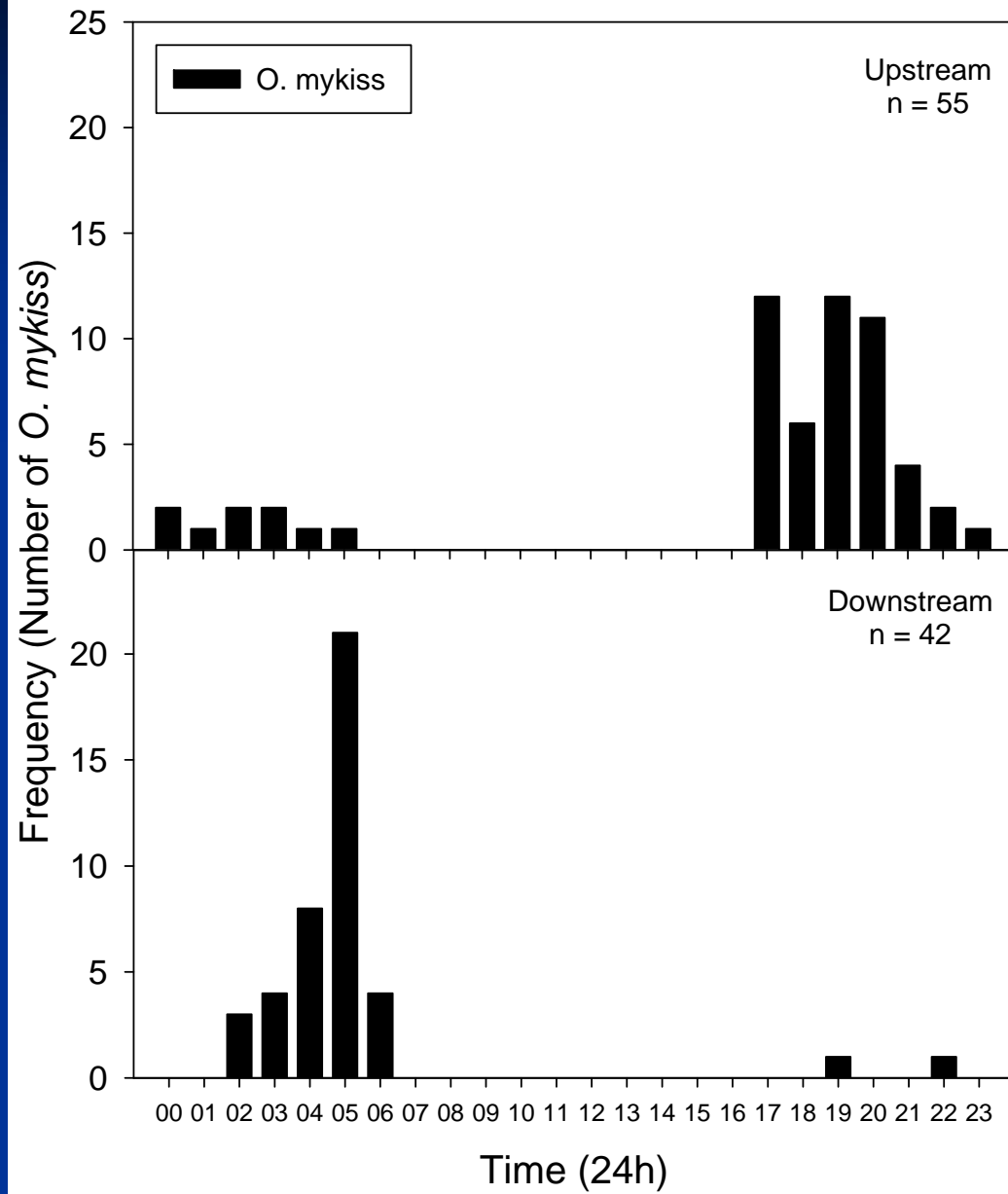
**Other fish species**—based on video, silhouette, size, and(or) other species characteristics.

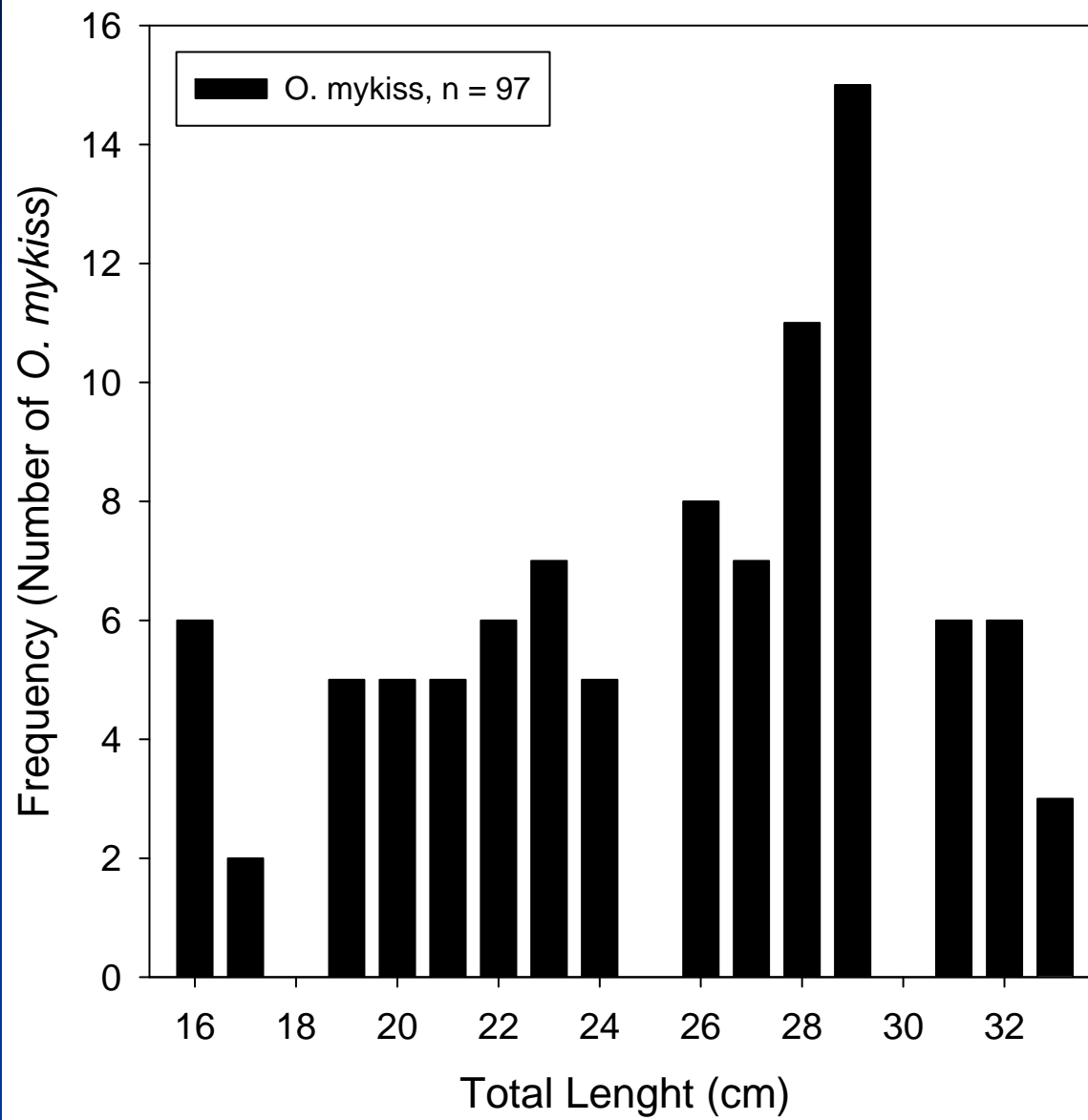
**Fish unknown**—based on video, but species could not be determined.

**Fish probable**—based on silhouette.











# Vaki Riverwatcher Monitoring Limitations

Turbidity (NTU)	Riverwatcher status
> 200	Not operational
100-200	Many false detections
30-100	Scanner operational, but unable to confirm with video
< 30	Video grid detectable
0-30	Riverwatcher fully operational

- Detection rate of 31% for smaller test fish.
- Detection rate of 100% for larger test fish.
- Underestimation of fish height by 25%.
- Additional testing needed.

# Downstream Fish Passage Monitoring

**Objective:** Determine the relative numbers, timing, and condition of downstream migrating fish using the Robles Facility.

**2009:** One *O. mykiss* was captured, tagged, and released. Migrated downstream 2 km and found dead.





