

Lower Provo River

Summary of the 2008 Survey

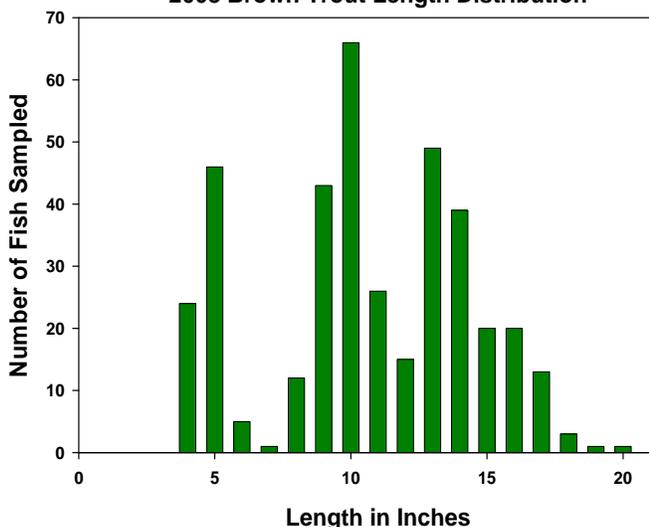


Jordan Nielson, Aquatics Biologist, Central Region

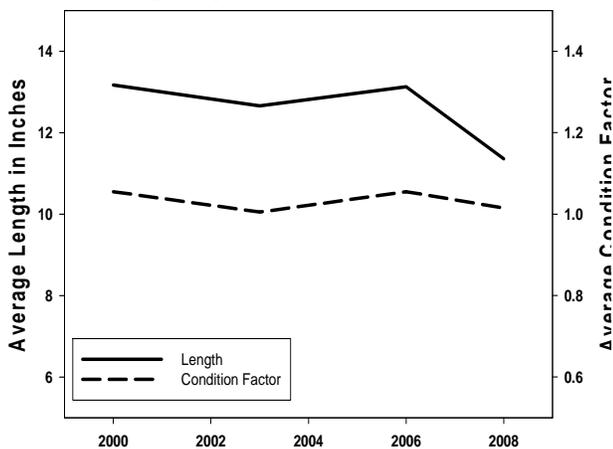
The Blue Ribbon section of the Lower Provo River extends from Deer Creek dam downstream to the Olmstead Diversion. This section has special regulations of artificial flies and lures only and a limit of two trout under 15 inches. Below the Blue Ribbon section general regulations apply. The Lower Provo River is generally surveyed every 2-5 years. Brown trout is the most abundant sport fish in this section of the Provo although anglers can catch rainbow trout and possibly mountain whitefish. Surveys are conducted using electrofishing at established sampling locations around the same time of year to be able to make comparisons across years. The figures below summarize the survey data for brown trout from 2000 to present (2008 was the last survey).

The size of brown trout during the last survey ranged from 4 to 20 inches. The graph to the right shows abundant trout in the five and ten inch range indicating that the population is recruiting successfully. There are also plenty of bigger trout to be caught by anglers. The average trout length for past ten years has varied around 12 inches. Condition Factor is an index used to assess the health of the trout and the abundance of food resources. Condition factor is generally around 1.0 and indicates that the trout have adequate food resources and have healthy body condition. Trout densities in the Lower Provo River are high and have ranged between 2,500 and 5,000 fish per mile. Anglers are encouraged to keep some trout to help promote a healthy fishery and provide opportunity for optimal individual growth in the population.

2008 Brown Trout Length Distribution



Average Length and Condition of Brown Trout



Brown Trout Densities

