Survey locations

* 20 sampling sites along the Feather River (12 in the Low Flow Channel and 8 in the High Flow Channel)
* Three to six divers are distributed along three transects (left side of river, right side of river, center of river).
* The center transect is typically done in the downstream direction because currents are too strong to swim upstream whereas the other transects along river banks are done in the upstream direction.
* Divers use plastic slates to mark observations of fish. Groups of similar sized fish that are observed in a 1 m2 or less area are treated as a single observation. Effort at each site recorded in terms of time sampled, area covered, number of divers.

Monitoring schedule

* Typically conducted each year between May and August

Fish measurements

* Fish run

The accuracy of size estimates were enhanced by comparing observed fishes to nearby objects: These objects were then measured using the scale mounted on plastic writing slates.

* Fork length

We calibrated fish identification and size estimation by training divers with tethered fishing lures in a controlled setting.

* Fish species

Fish counts

* Groups of similar sized fish that were observed in a 1 m2 or less area were treated as a single observation.