

Flashy Stream and Infrequent Smolts:
A modified trap for seasonal outmigrants



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Introduction

Fyke traps are an important tool to monitor migrating salmonids in small and medium sized streams. However, traditional fykes have low debris tolerance and can be difficult to move and re-install when flows change.

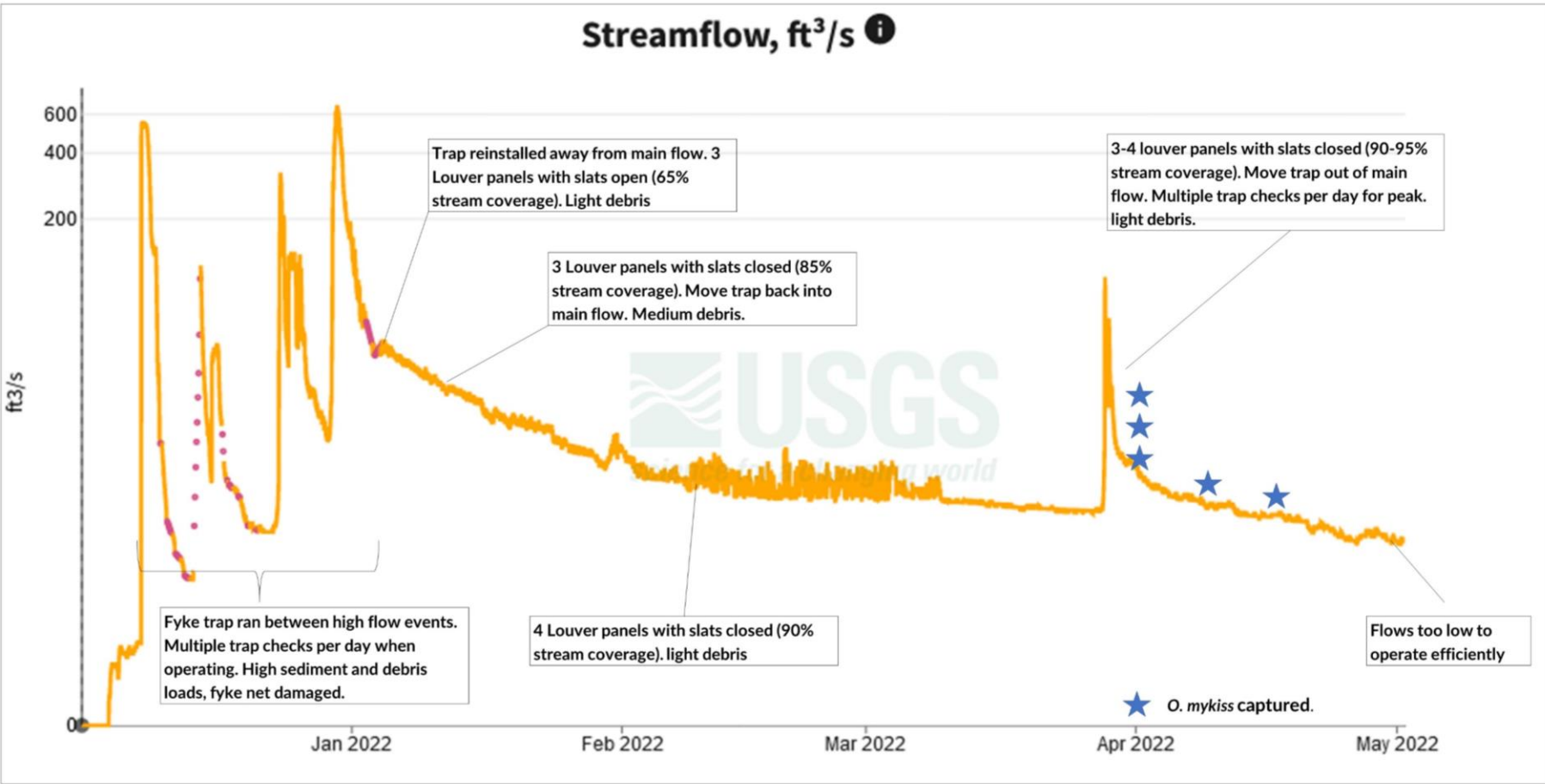


Traditional fyke trap

We modified a fyke and added louver panel wings to monitor a small *Oncorhynchus mykiss* population in flashy stream with high debris loads.

Results

- Once on site, the trap could be quickly deployed (1 hour by 2 people) in multiple configurations
- Stream coverage ~95% at flows <150 cfs
- Effectively captured *O. mykiss*
- High debris loads damaged net during a storm, but louvers and livebox were undamaged
- 100% of marked fish were retained in livebox



Stream flow data during trapping season with environmental conditions, capture data, and trap configuration

Next Steps

- Continued efficiency testing of traps at different flows
- Develop a decision-tree that clearly outlines trapping actions in response to flow changes
- Assessment of competing trapping methodologies and PIT tag antenna data



Brag about your traps! Share your unique trapping solutions or check other peoples

Modified Fyke Trap Components



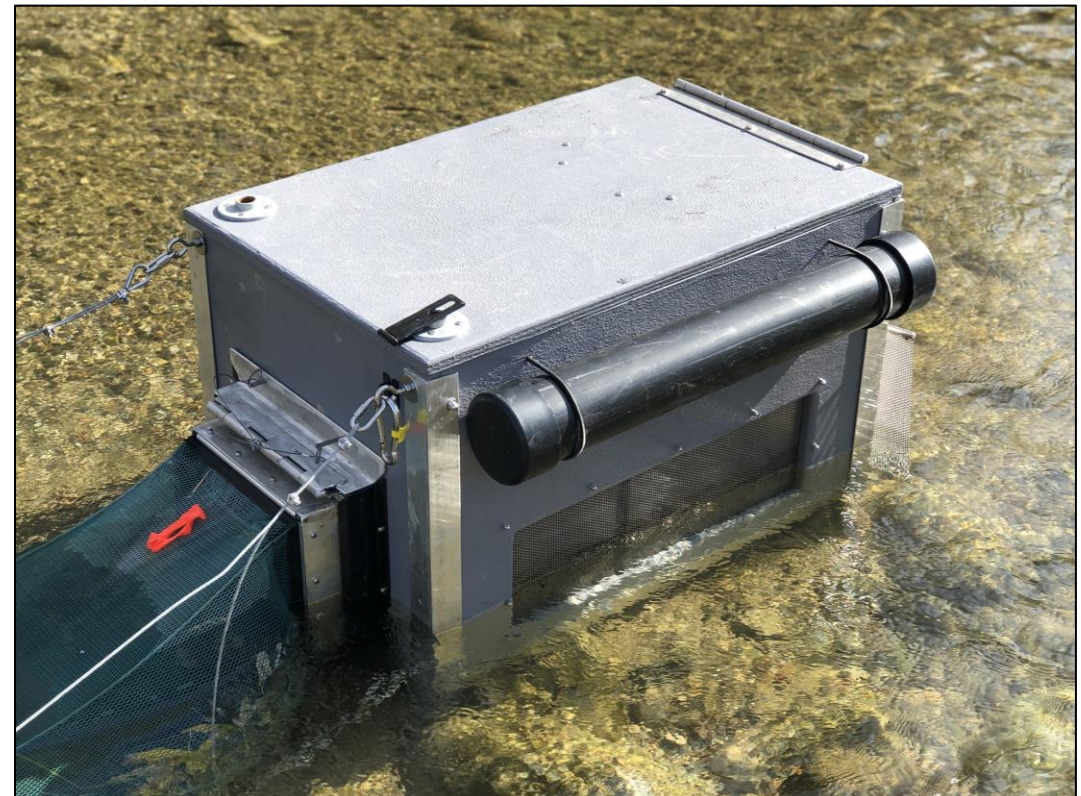
Louver Panel Wings
Typically employed at fish screening facilities, louvers replace traditional net wings. The vertical slats, create turbulence that trout avoid and are guided into the trap. Debris can pass through the slat openings. Slats can be closed at low flows for a complete barrier.



Fyke Mouth Frame
Provides stability for net in high flows. Held in place by cables and ratchets for quick deployment.



Fyke Net
Zipper along the top of the net and no inner net throats for easy cleaning of debris.



Livebox Attachment
Fyke net constricts down to a smaller aluminum frame that slides into livebox for quick set up (left). Removeable livebox throat obscures the entrance (right).

