

2023 BOIS BRULE RIVER FALL FISHWAY UPDATE

| Brown | Chinook | Coho | Fall Run | Brook | Pink | Splake |
|-------|---------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|
| Trout | Salmon | Salmon | Steelhead | Trout | Salmon | |
| 3436 | 610 | 4841 | 5751 | 0 | 116 | 24 |

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) video-monitored trout and salmon migration at the fishway from July through December. Chart A shows the phenology (i.e., migration/run timing) of the three most common lake-run trout and salmon species in the lower river. Individuals were larger than normal, mainly due to their feeding on the high cisco abundance in the lake. August and September brought large rain events, which jump-started the fall run. Steelhead and coho salmon peaks came in the 37th and 39th weeks of the year with 78% of fish having passed the barrier by Oct. 1. Most steelhead (59 percent) ranged from 23 to 27 inches long while 9 percent measured 12 to 17 inches long. Coho salmon generally ranged from 24 to 26 inches long, with some measuring 29 inches or more; two Chinook salmon measured 39 inches. 70 percent of brown trout were 21 to 26 inches long. Charts B, C and D show the fall 2023 numbers relative to previous fall numbers. The fall 2023 numbers reflect typical variability within these populations of trout and salmon that sustain themselves through natural reproduction.



