United States
Department of
Agriculture

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Board

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# Trout Production Survey

# Interviewer's Manual

# Chapter 1: General

## General

Trout operations use some form of intervention in the rearing process to enhance production, such as regular stocking, feeding, and protection from predators, pests, and disease. NASS samples all operations that sell or distribute raised, reared, or hatched trout in the program States. Wild caught trout are excluded from this survey. Trout operations may raise other types of aquaculture products; however, these should be excluded from the production numbers collected for the Trout Survey. Trout operations can be operated by an individual, corporation, or a government entity. Farms surveyed are expected to produce, (or have the potential to produce) sales of $1,000 or more of aquaculture/agriculture products.

The Trout Survey includes commercial farming operations and State, Federal, Tribal, or other hatcheries where fish are distributed for conservation, restoration, or recreation purposes. Research operations are also included as trout operations. Trout fee fishing operations are included if value is added, that is, the fish are fed and gain weight. Include operations that charge a fee per unit (pound, head, or inch) or a blanket fee for fish caught.

Exclude operations that are not adding value through feeding and weight gain. Examples of trout operations to exclude are catch and release operations, or restaurants that serve fresh fish that you or they catch from a small holding pond. Exclude operations that are primarily recreational that take fish from public waters. Exclude any wild caught trout.

State estimates of pounds of trout produced and the value and type of sales and distribution are made for the major States. Trout production is estimated in January.

The Trout Production Survey is conducted in the following States:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Arkansas | Nebraska | Tennessee |
| California | Nevada | Utah |
| Colorado | New Hampshire | Virginia |
| Connecticut | New Jersey | Washington |
| Georgia | New Mexico | West Virginia |
| Idaho | New York | Wisconsin |
| Massachusetts | North Carolina | Wyoming |
| Michigan | Oregon | |
| Missouri | Pennsylvania | |

## Purpose

The purpose of the Trout Survey is to provide reliable data for the industry to use in making informed production and marketing decisions. Aquaculture may be included in government legislation, so government and industry leaders need independent and unbiased information to accurately assess the industry's needs. Consumers, the media, and academics are also interested in aquaculture data. Leaders of the trout industry requested the survey and have assisted in structuring its scope.

## Survey Plans

The phases of the Trout Survey include list maintenance, list screening, data collection, summarization, and publication. The list was built from names and addresses supplied by industry, other agricultural agencies, and producers. The list is classified by type and value of sales. Data collection will usually be done in the following phases: (1) mail questionnaires to all known trout farms and hatcheries; (2) interview by phone all mail non-respondents; and (3) personally enumerate those requesting personal enumeration and all telephone non-respondents. This technique is most desirable to keep costs at a minimum yet giving all operators every opportunity to report.

## Your Job

You as an enumerator are to contact the selected producers and solicit their cooperation to supply data for the survey. You should be thoroughly familiar with the purpose of the survey so you can answer the respondents' questions. Inform producers that response to this survey is voluntary and not required by law. Information will be kept confidential and combined with other producer data to provide a summary. The purpose of the survey should be reviewed to answer the respondent questions. You may be asked questions like: Why is this being done? Of what use is it to me? The Purpose section will help you answer these types of questions.

## Basic Guidelines for Questionnaire Completion

- Use a black pencil for entries.
- Record live weight to the nearest whole pound.
- Record total dollar entries to the nearest dollar.
- Record percentage entries to the nearest whole percent.
- Follow skip logic instructions to avoid asking needless questions.
- Write notes to describe unusual situations. Also, for list building purposes, note any other species of fish that the respondent may raise.

The questionnaires were designed to meet the needs of most producers. However, producers use a wide variety of management and production systems and some of these may not be compatible with the questionnaire design. Every effort to obtain the needed data must be made to insure accurate statistics. Make note of special situations.

# Chapter 2: Terms and Definitions

## General Terms

**Trout –** For this survey, trout includes all freshwater species of trout as well as sea run trout and steelhead that were raised in a controlled environment. Include fish released into the wild (distributed fish), but exclude any fish caught from the wild. Also exclude landlocked salmon (Kokanee).

**Distributed Fish –** Fish that are produced for release into the wild for restoration, conservation, or recreational purposes. Distributed fish are counted in the Trout Survey, Census of Aquaculture, and Census of Agriculture. Values may be assigned by similar sales comparison or by other methods when applicable.

**Point of First Sale Outlet** - The first point at which money changes hands. Delivery to the processing plant is a point of first sale.

**Value of Sales** – Gross value of live weight sales a producer receives before marketing and production costs are deducted. Exclude cleaning charges.

# Chapter 3: Survey Procedures

## Questionnaire

Data will be collected by telephone and personal interview. One questionnaire version will be used. The enumeration period begins late December. The sales, loss, and distribution questions refer to the 12 month period from January 1 through December 31 of the previous year.

The questionnaire is divided into the following sections:

- Identification
- Sales
- Losses
- Trout Distributed by Government or Tribal Agencies
- Change in Operator
- Conclusion

## Respondent Burden

You will reduce the burden to the respondent if you are thoroughly familiar with the questionnaire and instructions. Pay attention to skip instructions in the questionnaire to avoid asking questions needlessly. When skip instructions are not printed after an item, you will continue with the next item.

Also, be aware of the estimate of average completion time in the Burden Statement. The estimated average completion time is based on experience with previous Trout Surveys and the judgment of NASS and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB is an agency that approves all surveys conducted by the federal government (each questionnaire has an OMB control number in the upper right corner). The expected average interview length for the Trout Production Survey is 15 minutes. Burden statements are printed on the back of the questionnaire.

## Entering Data

Use a black pencil to record data and notes. Never use ink on a questionnaire. Make all entries clear, and easy to read. Entries in check boxes and item code boxes must be inside the boxes. Record responses in the units indicated on the questionnaire. If a respondent gives an answer in a different unit, write the answer outside the printed box, convert it to the required unit, and record the converted data in the box. Each question should be answered. Probe the respondent for a best estimate if actual data are unknown. If "zero", "none", etc. are reported for any question, please indicate with a dash. In most of cases when a conversion is needed you should wait until the interview is over to make the required updates (you can also make notes for your Supervisor or the Regional Field Office (RFO) statistician to do the conversion if you are not confident in doing it yourself).

The trout operation may grow other fish species. The respondent should report data for the trout operation only. If the respondent is unable to separate the species, obtain an estimate of what percent trout make up the mixed operation. Note this percentage by the questions which contain answers for the mixed operation. The RFO will convert the data. The following sections of this chapter provide detailed information about each question

All questions in this questionnaire refer to the previous calendar year. Sales data are requested for four categories - 12" or longer (generally foodsize), 6" to less than 12" (generally stockers), 1" to less than 6" (generally fingerlings), and eggs. Note that food size fish may be less than 12" in length. Number and live weight pounds are asked for fish but only the number of eggs is requested. Total dollars received for all sales is asked by length of fish and for eggs.

If the respondent has trouble reporting live weight pounds sold, refer to the Trout Length-Weight Table on pages 2 and 3 of Appendix 1. For example, the respondent reports selling 25,000 seven-inch fish for twenty-five cents per fish but does not know the live weight. Looking at the Length-Weight Table, the table shows the corresponding weight per fish at .147 pounds. Multiplying 25,000 fish by 0.147 pounds per fish results in 3,675 pounds of fish. Enter 25,000 in cell 025 and 3,675 in cell 026. To calculate total sales, multiply the price ($ .25) times the number of fish (25,000) which results in $6,250.

# Chapter 4: Screening

## Front Page

### Introduction

Before beginning data collection, develop an introduction you are comfortable using. In the introduction include who you are, whom you represent, and the purpose of the visit. You should be familiar with the information in Chapter One of this manual. When making your introduction, remind the respondent that data they report will be kept strictly confidential. All information they provide will only be used to make State and national estimates. Be prepared to answer questions the respondent may have about the purpose of the survey and uses of the data.

### Name and Address Verification

Please verify the name and address that appears on the label. Make all necessary corrections to name, address, and zip code, in the space around the label.

# Chapter 5: Completing the Questionnaire

## Overview

This section provides an overview of how Chapter 5 is organized. Chapter 5 contains question-by-question instructions for every item in every question of the Trout Growers Survey questionnaire. As you read the manual, refer to a copy of your State's questionnaire.

| Section of the Annual Questionnaire | Question Subject |
|---|---|
| 1 | Identification |
| 2 | Sales |
| 3 | Trout Losses |
| 4 | Trout Distributed by Government or Tribal Agencies |
| 5 | Change in Operation |
| 6 | Conclusion |

## Section 1: Identification

Please check the appropriate response for each box then carry over the appropriate response code (1, 2, or 3) to the item code boxes on the right. If the respondent answers "yes" to either a, b, or c, then go to Section 2, otherwise continue. If the respondent answers yes to question d, go to section 4, otherwise continue. For question e, regardless of how the respondent answers, go to section 5.

**SECTION 1: IDENTIFICATION**

1. On land operated by the farm, ranch or individual(s) listed on the label:

 a. Was any water area on this operation used to raise trout or trout eggs during 20XX?

 2373 1 ☐ **YES** – Go to Section 2 3 ☐ **NO** – Continue

 b. Was there any hatchery inventory or trout production on this operation during 20XX?

 2374 1 ☐ **YES** – Go to Section 2 3 ☐ **NO** – Continue

 c. Were any trout sold from this operation during 20XX?

 376 1 ☐ **YES** – Go to Section 2 3 ☐ **NO** – Continue

 d. Did this operation distribute trout or trout eggs for restoration, conservation, or recreational purposes during 20XX? **Exclude** captured trout.

 2375 1 ☐ **YES** – Go to Section 4 3 ☐ **NO** – Continue

 e. Will any trout be produced on this operation in the future?

 2378 1 ☐ **YES** – Go to Section 5 2 ☐ **DON'T KNOW** – Go to Section 5 3 ☐ **NO** – Go to Section 5

## Section 2: Sales

Total sales for the entire year are reported in Item 1. Except for trout eggs in question d, an entry is needed in all three items for a line of data to be useable. If the number is not available, probe to get a measure of size so that the total number may be derived.

This section has two questions: Question 1 asks for number of fish sold, pounds sold and total value of production for all the production categories. Question 2 asks the breakout by point of first sale outlet.

**SECTION 2: SALES**

1. During 20XX, what were the total trout sales of fish and eggs produced or raised (grown-out) on this operation. **Include** fish **sold** to someone else for distribution. Report trout **distributed** (not sold) in Section 4.

| Fish Size | Total Number Sold | Total Pounds Live Weight Sold | Total Sales ** (Dollars) |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. 12 inches or longer . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 022 | 023 | 024 $ .00 |
| b. 6 inches to less than 12 inches long . . . . . . . . . . | 025 | 026 | 027 $ .00 |
| c. 1 inch to less than 6 inches long . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 057 | 058 | 059 $ .00 |
| d. Trout eggs . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 028 | | 029 $ .00 |

** Live weight price – **exclude** cleaning charges.

There are several operations that grow and process their own fish. The fish that are grown and processed by the same operation should be included in the number and pounds sold. Generally, these fish will be included in the 12"+ group. These operations may not be able to provide total dollars received since the fish were not sold as live fish. However, every attempt should be made to obtain an average live weight price. If the grower/processor can provide an estimated average price or bought some fish to process, please make a note of these prices on the questionnaire. Exclude sales by brokers.

## Definitions

**12” or Longer Fish** – Grown commercially for food, usually weighing from three fourths to one and one-half pounds.

**6” – 12” Fish** – These are usually stockers and usually weigh less than three-fourths of a pound. They may be sold as foodsize fish.

**1” – 6” Fish** – Usually considered fingerlings.

**Trout Eggs –** Eggs that are taken from female trout for production purposes.

## Section 3: Sales Outlets

Sales outlet data help determine market developments. Record entries to the nearest whole percent. The pieces for each category must add to 100 percent.

Reported percents should be for the point of first sale or, in other words, the first point at which money changes hands. The sales outlet data are comparable to the sales reported in question 1.

2. During 2022, what percent of the reported trout 12 inches or longer sales and the reported 6 inches to less than 12 inches sales (Items 1a and 1b, above), were sold to each of the following outlets?

| Point Of First Sale | Percent of Total Value of Sales for Fish Sold as: 12 inches or longer | 6 to less than 12 inches |
|---|---|---|
| a. Processors (also INCLUDE fish processed on the operation) .................................. | 039 % | 061 % |
| b. Live hauler/brokers .................................................................................. | 030 % | 031 % |
| c. Retail outlets - (restaurants, grocery stores, etc.) ..................................................... | 040 % | 062 % |
| d. Direct to consumers - (farmers market, on-farm fee fishing) ..................................... | 019 % | 063 % |
| e. Recreational stocking - (private lakes and ponds) ..................................................... | 032 % | 033 % |
| f. Wholesale to other producers (to stock commercial and fee fishing operations) ....... | 034 % | 035 % |
| g. Government agencies .................................................................................. | 036 % | 037 % |
| h. Export .................................................................................. | 070 % | 071 % |
| i. Other, Specify: ________________________________ ......... | 041 % | 042 % |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% |

### Terms Used to Describe the Point of First Sale

**Point of First Sale Outlet**: The first point at which money changes hands.

**Direct to Consumers**: Report sales of fish directly to the consumer for human consumption. Sales of fish from fee fishing operations should record their sales here if the fish are fed and value is added to the fish.

**Export**: Fish moved outside of US borders.

**Government Agencies**: Sales to Federal, State, or local government hatcheries or other groups involved in purchasing fish used to stock Federal, publicly owned, or regulated waters and recreational areas.

**Live Hauler/Broker**: Individual or company that generally purchases live fish from a producer and transports them in an oxygenated tank truck to other outlets, including processing plants, pay lakes, recreational lakes, or retail outlets.

**Other**: Outlets not meeting the above definitions are recorded here. Export sales should be listed here. If in doubt as to where to put sales, list them here with notes explaining the situation.

**Processors**: Fish that the operator sells/delivers directly to a plant for processing. Usually, the purchasing plant has no ties to the producer. However, in some cases, the plant may be a cooperative that is jointly owned by the producer and other producers. Also, include fish raised by the operator and then processed through their own processing plant.

**Recreational Stocking:** Only include fish sold **TO** individuals or private enterprises for the sole purpose of stocking recreational waters.

- Fish sold to Federal State or local government agencies for stocking public waters should be reported as sold to "Government Agencies."

- Fish that are sold for the purpose of stocking another producer's commercial ponds should be reported as sold "Wholesale to Other Producers."

- Fish sold **by** fee-fishing or U-fish operations should be listed as being sold "Direct to Consumers."

**Retail Outlets:** Individuals, grocers, restaurants, or companies who buy fish to re-sell to consumers.

**Value of Sales:** Gross value of live weight sales. What the producer actually received before marketing and production costs are deducted.

**Wholesale to Other Producers:** These are other farmers who buy live fish to raise for future sale.

## Section 3: Trout Losses

Losses cover all trout death for fish intended for sale, including fish less than 6 inches long. Both number and pounds lost are required. Probe the respondents for best estimates when losses are unknown. Average length or pounds per fish lost can be used to derive total pounds or number if only one is known. (Refer to Appendix 1 to help derive missing data.) **Only losses that were intended for sale are included.** Losses of fish intended for distribution are not included. It is unusual for operations to have no trout sold, but trout losses.

**SECTION 3: TROUT LOSSES**

1. What were the total **number** and **live weight pounds** of trout lost (all lengths and sizes) during 20XX due to:

| Cause of Loss | Intended for Sale | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Total Number Lost** | **Total Pounds Lost** |
| a. Disease . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 045 | 046 |
| b. Theft or vandalism . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 047 | 048 |
| c. Chemical contamination . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 049 | 050 |
| d. Drought . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 051 | 052 |
| e. Flood . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 053 | 054 |
| f. Predator (animals, birds, etc.) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 081 | 082 |
| g. Other, (specify: ___________________) | 055 | 056 |

**Chemical Contamination:** Include losses from pesticide or herbicide poisoning.

**Disease:** Include losses from both parasitic and bacterial caused sickness.

**Droughts:** Include losses from lack of water causing oxygen depletion.

**Floods:** Include losses from too much water washing the fish away.

**Other:** Include losses from any source not fitting the pre-listed causes. Please note the cause in comments.

**Predators:** Include losses from mink, otters, birds, and other animals.

**Theft or Vandalism:** The unauthorized removal of fish and/or the destruction of property causing a loss of fish by intentional acts of persons known or unknown.

## Section 4: Trout Distributed by Government or Tribal Agencies

Fish and eggs **distributed** by State, Federal, Tribal, or other hatcheries for restoration, conservation, enhancement, or recreational purposes (stocking lakes, ponds, and rivers) should be entered in this section. Fish and eggs **sold** by hatcheries should be entered in Section 2, Question 1. Generally, trout can be sold multiple times, but distributed only once.

Eggs should not be counted if the target operation hatches their own eggs to raise trout. Do not count the money free transfer of eggs or fish from one hatchery to another hatchery. Value for distributed trout should represent what would have been received if the fish had been sold. Include sea-run trout and steelhead but exclude landlocked salmon (Kokanee).

Example 1 – Hatchery A transfers trout free of charge to Hatchery B which distributes the trout. The trout are counted for Hatchery B, not on Hatchery A. The screener questions would show that Hatchery A will produce trout in the future. The trout are counted under Hatchery B as that is the end point of where the fish were distributed.

Example 2 – Hatchery C transfers eggs free of charge to Hatchery D which hatches the eggs and grows to fingerlings for distribution. The fingerlings should show as distributed under Hatchery D. The eggs will not go under either Hatchery. Screener questions would show Hatchery C will produce trout in the future.

Example 3 – Hatchery E transfers broodfish free of charge to Hatchery F which collects eggs and hatches the fry and grow to fingerlings for distribution. Hatchery F also distributes some of the broodfish received from Hatchery E. Hatchery F is counted for the fingerlings and broodfish distributed. There is no action to count Hatchery E, as they did not sell or distribute the broodfish.

Example 4 – Hatchery G raises trout, and they sell their fish through a "pay lake" or "fishable creek" where the target charges by the "pole" or "by the day". Report the fish in the sales section (direct to consumers) and estimate a reasonable value.

Example 5 – Hatchery H has a "pay lake" where they charge by the inch/pound. Fish sold at Hatchery H should be reported in the sales section (direct to consumers).

Example 6 -- Hatchery I transfers fingerlings (1" – 6" fish**)** that they grew free of charge to Hatchery J which distributes the trout. The fingerlings are counted for Hatchery J, not on Hatchery I. The screener questions would show that Hatchery I will produce trout in the future. The trout are counted under Hatchery I as that is the end point of where the fish were distributed.

## SECTION 4: TROUT DISTRIBUTED FOR RESTORATION, CONSERVATION, ENHANCEMENT, OR RECREATION

1. What were the total amounts of fish and eggs produced by this operation for restoration, conservation or recreational purposes during 20XX? Report fish **sold** in **Section 2**. (**Exclude** trout/trout eggs transferred to another operation for final distribution.)

| Fish Size | Number Distributed | Total Pounds Live Weight Distributed | Estimated Total Value of Product Distributed |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. 12 inches or longer . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 201 | 202 | 203 $ .00 |
| b. 6 inches to less than 12 inches long . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 204 | 205 | 206 $ .00 |
| c. 1 inch to less than 6 inches long . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 207 | 208 | 209 $ .00 |
| d. Trout eggs . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 210 | | |

## Section 5: Change in Operation

Has this operation been sold, or turned over to another person to make the day-to-day decision? If "YES" then please enter the information below, otherwise go to the Conclusion Section 6.

**SECTION 5: CHANGE IN OPERATOR**

1. Has this operation (name on label) been sold, or turned over to someone else?

23 1 ☐ **YES** – Identify the new operators(s) below 3 ☐ **NO** – Go to Section 6

Operation Name: ______________________________

Operator Name: ______________________________

Address: ______________________ Phone: (____) _____–_________

City: ______________________ State: ______________ Zip: ______

## Section 6: Conclusion

Ask the respondent whether they make the day-to-day decision for another operation. If "yes," then please collect the full name of the operations otherwise mark the check box for "no." Survey results will be released nationally at 3:00 PM Eastern Time in late February. The release is available on the internet at http://www.nass.usda.gov. The RFO will provide a copy of survey results to growers that request it.

**SECTION 6: CONCLUSION**

1. Do you make day-to-day decisions for another trout operation?

2377 1 ☐ **YES** – Identify the new operator(s) below 3 ☐ **NO** – Continue

Operation Name: ______________________________

Operator Name: ______________________________

Address: ______________________ Phone: (____) _____–_________

City: ______________________ State: ______________ Zip: ______

## Survey Completion

Thank the respondent. Record the name of the respondent, the respondent's phone number, and the date of the interview.

## Office Use – Response Block

### Response Code

Upon completion of the interview, enter the response code in cell 9901 on the Back Page of the questionnaire. Response codes are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Code 1 | **Complete** | The questionnaire is complete. |
| Code 2 | **Refusal** | The respondent refused to cooperate or grant an interview. |
| Code 3 | **Inaccessible / Incomplete** | The operator was not available throughout the survey period (inaccessible). You will also use code 3 if the respondent gave an interview but could not or would not answer a lot of the questions (incomplete questionnaire). If you determine that the target operation does not produce the selected commodity, code the questionnaire complete (code 1) and indicate the source of your information with a note. |
| Code 5 | **Refusal (Estimated)** | The respondent refused to cooperate or grant an interview, but the operation is a Strata 44, which requires estimation. |
| Code 6 | **Inaccessible (Estimated)** | The operator was not available throughout the survey period (inaccessible), but they are a Strata 44, which requires estimation. You will also use code 3 if the respondent gave an interview but could not or would not answer a lot of the questions (incomplete questionnaire). If you determine that the target operation does not produce the selected commodity, code the questionnaire complete (code 1) and indicate the source of your information with a note. |

### Respondent Code

Upon completion of the interview, enter the respondent code in cell 9902 on the Back Page of the questionnaire. Respondent codes are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Code 1 | Operator/ Manager |
| Code 2 | Spouse |
| Code 3 | Accountant/ Bookkeeper |
| Code 4 | Partner |
| Code 9 | Other |

### Mode Code

Upon completion of the interview, enter the mode code in cell 9903 on the Back Page of the questionnaire. Mode codes are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | = | Telephone Completed on Paper |
| 3 | = | Personal Interview Completed on Paper |

### Enumerator Code

Enter your enumerator ID number in the Enum. code cell 9998 and print your name in the S/E Name box.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Respondent Name: | 9911<br>Phone: (_____) _____–_________ | 9910 MM DD YY<br>Date: __ __ __ |

Thank you for your response.

Office Use

| Response | | Respondent | | Mode | | Enum | Eval. | R.Unit | Chan | Optional Use for POID | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1-Comp<br>2-R<br>3-Inac<br>4-Office Hold<br>5-R – Est<br>6-Inac – Est<br>7-Off Hold – Est | 9901 | 1-Op/Mgr<br>2-Sp<br>3-Acct/Bkpr<br>4-Partner<br>9-Oth | 9902 | 1-Mail<br>2-Tel<br>3-Face-to-Face<br>4-CATI<br>5-Web<br>6-e-mail<br>7-Fax<br>8-CAPI<br>19-Other | 9903 | 9998 | 9900 | 9921 | 9985 | 9989<br>- - | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | Optional Use | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 9907 | 9908 | 9906 | 9916 |
| S/E Name | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

## Office Use - Completion Code Boxes

| Office Use Only | |
|---|---|
| **1 – Incomplete Distributed Trout**<br>**2 – Distribution Unknown**<br>**3 – Valid zero** | **200** |

Completion code boxes are in sections 2 and 3. These boxes are to be completed when all data are inaccessible, refused, or when valid zeros are reported for all items in a section. **Note that the 707 box refers to both sales (section 2) and losses of fish that are for sale (section 3).** The 200 box refers to distributed fish. Check with your RFO Coordinator for proper handling of partially completed sections. The concept of coding the completion boxes is the same for all surveys. The more information you can obtain from or about operators that refuse or are inaccessible, the better you can code these boxes.

You will need to enter a code for the following situations:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | = | Incomplete, but has TROUT. Through observation or other information, you know the operation has the item of interest on the total acres operated. |
| 2 | = | After observation or other sources of information were sought out, you do not know if operation has TROUT. |
| 3 | = | Valid Zero. Enter this code whenever it is known, either through interviews or other sources, that the operator has none of the items of interest on the total acres operated. |

**"What if Situations" and qualifying for the Catfish/Trout Survey:**

1. Target A purchased 5 inch fingerlings from a "Live Hauler". Target A fed them and raised them up until they reached 12 inches and then sold them. Target A would report the fish since he further grew them out.

2. Target B purchased 11 inch fish from another producer and then quickly sold them to a processor without any further growing. Target B would NOT report the fish. There was no further growing.

3. Target C purchased fish from another operator. Target C then immediately processed and smoked the fish and sold the smoked fish to local restaurants. Target C would NOT report the fish as there was no further growing.

4. Target D purchased 4 inch fingerlings from a producer and then immediately sells them to another producer. There is no further growing. Do NOT count the fish that were purchased for immediate resale.

5. "Pay Lake Operations" – These operations may not qualify for either survey. You only report the fish at these type operations if they raised the fish themselves or purchased them at a younger age and further grew them out. Most "Pay Lake Operations" have fish transported to their lake by a "Live Hauler" where they are immediately fished for by fishermen who pay to fish. Since there is no feeding or further growing on the part of the "Pay Lake Operation", these fish would NOT be reported on the "Pay Lake's" report.

6. We do not collect data on those operations who charge a straight permit fee to fish even though they raised them. For example, you would NOT collect information on those who charge $6 dollars a pole to fish or $10 a day to fish and you keep all the fish you catch. Also, recreational catch and release fish are NOT reported on the questionnaire. The catch and release operations are typically operations that have guided fishing tours, or they have stretches of private streams for fishermen to fish. If you come across someone like this, please make notes on the questionnaire as to what they are doing. If in doubt, please call your supervisor.

7. Part year Operations: If the operator had any fish during any part of the year at all, complete the survey. They may have only operated from January 1 to July 1 and then went out of business. You would still complete a questionnaire for the time they were in business. Be sure to get the name, address, and phone number of the new operator if there is one.

8. Operations that process their own fish: You may come across a large producer who is reporting a very high price for their fish compared to other operations of similar size.

   Example: Large producers typically get less than $2.00 a pound for trout because they are selling their live fish in bulk to a processor, who processes the fish for meat, making dip, smoking the meat, etc. You might come across someone who is very large, and they report a price per pound of $6.00 or more.

   If you come across a large commercial producer who is selling their fish for more than $4.00 a pound, there is a good chance the operator is processing his own fish. We need the live raw weight and the raw weight price for fish, not the processed weight and sales. If someone raises fish and then smokes the fish to sell, do not report the smoked price of the fish or the processed weight. Smoking fish is considered processing. Please ask the operator to give you the number of trout, an estimated total live weight and a live weight price. Also, if an operation processes their own fish, they may under report live weight for the fish since they are processing them. We need a realistic live weight price. Make notes.

9. Operations that catch wild fish by nets from public lakes, rivers, etc.: Fish that are caught with nets and then sold to restaurants, etc. are NOT to be counted on the questionnaire. Operations that catch wild fish are not considered agriculture and do not qualify for the Catfish/Trout Surveys.

10. Operations that raise fish by nets, cages, etc. in public or private lakes: If the operator has fish penned up in cages or nets and is feeding the fish, etc. for growing purposes, the fish would be counted in the survey.

11. Fish raised on contract: If an operation raises catfish/trout on a Production Contract for someone else, please document how much they produce for their own operation and how much they raise on a Production Contract. We want the Total Numbers produced for their

own operation and the Total Numbers raised for the Contractor. We also want the Total Pounds produced for their own operation and the Total Pounds for the Contractor. Regarding Total Sales, please document how much he sold his fish for and how much he received for the fish he raised on contract.

Reason Why: If we included the Production Contract Fish Fees in with the Total Sales, we are under reporting the true value of the fish. That is why it is important to know if an operation reports raises fish on contract so we can value all of the fish based on what he is selling his own fish for.

# Appendix 1: Trout Length-Weight Table

## General

On the following two pages are tables which may be used to determine the weight of a fish if the length is known. For lengths greater than 25.0 inches, look up the two-digit length needed, move the length decimal one digit to the right and the weight decimal three digits to the right. For example, to find the weight of a 28 inch fish, look up 28 in the table. Listed is a 2.8 inch fish which averages .00915 pounds, so moving the decimal as instructed, a 28 inch fish would average 9.15 pounds.

Source: Colt, John E., length-weight calculator, website referenced on page 44. G. A. Wedemeyer, editor, 2001. Fish hatchery management, second edition. American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, Maryland.

# Trout Length-Weight Table

| Length Per Fish (Inches) | Ave. Weight Per Fish (Pounds) | Length Per Fish (Inches) | Ave. Weight Per Fish (Pounds) | Length Per Fish (Inches) | Ave. Weight Per Fish (Pounds) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.0 | .000406 | 3.8 | .0231 | 6.6 | .123 |
| 1.1 | .000541 | 3.9 | .0250 | 6.7 | .128 |
| 1.2 | .000704 | 4.0 | .0269 | 6.8 | .134 |
| 1.3 | .000897 | 4.1 | .0290 | 6.9 | .140 |
| 1.4 | .00112 | 4.2 | .0312 | 7.0 | .147 |
| 1.5 | .00138 | 4.3 | .0335 | 7.1 | .153 |
| 1.6 | .00168 | 4.4 | .0360 | 7.2 | .160 |
| 1.7 | .00202 | 4.5 | .0385 | 7.3 | .166 |
| 1.8 | .00240 | 4.6 | .0411 | 7.4 | .173 |
| 1.9 | .00283 | 4.7 | .0439 | 7.5 | .181 |
| 2.0 | .00331 | 4.8 | .0468 | 7.6 | .188 |
| 2.1 | .00383 | 4.9 | .0500 | 7.7 | .196 |
| 2.2 | .00441 | 5.0 | .0529 | 7.8 | .203 |
| 2.3 | .00505 | 5.1 | .0562 | 7.9 | .211 |
| 2.4 | .00574 | 5.2 | .0596 | 8.0 | .220 |
| 2.5 | .00650 | 5.3 | .0632 | 8.1 | .228 |
| 2.6 | .00731 | 5.4 | .0668 | 8.2 | .237 |
| 2.7 | .00820 | 5.5 | .0706 | 8.3 | .245 |
| 2.8 | .00915 | 5.6 | .0746 | 8.4 | .255 |
| 2.9 | .0102 | 5.7 | .0787 | 8.5 | .264 |
| 3.0 | .0113 | 5.8 | .0830 | 8.6 | .273 |
| 3.1 | .0125 | 5.9 | .0874 | 8.7 | .283 |
| 3.2 | .0137 | 6.0 | .0919 | 8.8 | .293 |
| 3.3 | .0151 | 6.1 | .0966 | 8.9 | .303 |
| 3.4 | .0165 | 6.2 | .102 | 9.0 | .314 |
| 3.5 | .0180 | 6.3 | .107 | 9.1 | .324 |
| 3.6 | .0196 | 6.4 | .112 | 9.2 | .335 |
| 3.7 | .0213 | 6.5 | .117 | 9.3 | .346 |

# Trout Length-Weight Table

| Length Per Fish (Inches) | Ave. Weight Per Fish (Pounds) | Length Per Fish (Inches) | Ave. Weight Per Fish (Pounds) | Length Per Fish (Inches) | Ave. Weight Per Fish (Pounds) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9.4 | .358 | 11.3 | .625 | 14.0 | 1.19 |
| 9.5 | .369 | 11.4 | .642 | 14.5 | 1.33 |
| 9.6 | .381 | 11.5 | .659 | 15.0 | 1.47 |
| 9.7 | .394 | 11.6 | .676 | 15.5 | 1.63 |
| 9.8 | .406 | 11.7 | .694 | 16.0 | 1.79 |
| 9.9 | .419 | 11.8 | .712 | 16.5 | 1.96 |
| 10.0 | .432 | 11.9 | .731 | 17.0 | 2.15 |
| 10.1 | .445 | 12.0 | .749 | 17.5 | 2.35 |
| 10.2 | .458 | 12.1 | .768 | 18.0 | 2.56 |
| 10.3 | .472 | 12.2 | .788 | 18.5 | 2.78 |
| 10.4 | .486 | 12.3 | .807 | 19.0 | 3.01 |
| 10.5 | .500 | 12.4 | .828 | 19.5 | 3.26 |
| 10.6 | .515 | 12.5 | .848 | 20.0 | 3.52 |
| 10.7 | .530 | 12.6 | .869 | 20.5 | 3.79 |
| 10.8 | .545 | 12.7 | .890 | 21.0 | 4.08 |
| 10.9 | .560 | 12.8 | .911 | 22.0 | 4.41 |
| 11.0 | .576 | 12.9 | .933 | 23.0 | 5.05 |
| 11.1 | .592 | 13.0 | .955 | 24.0 | 5.74 |
| 11.2 | .608 | 13.5 | 1.07 | 25.0 | 6.49 |