Native Fish and Wildlife Committee Update Spring 2022
Previous Fish Sampling in Lower Escalante River
UDWR Lower Escalante River Distribution
Sampling 2021

Methods

- Stations 500 m in length; spaced 1.0 apart
- Sample 20 sites within each station
  - Sites = contiguous areas of similar habitat (run, riffle, pool, backwater).
- Conduct three-pass seining at each site.
- Identify and measure all fish captured.
- Categorize habitat and substrate at each site.
- Measure habitat length, width and avg. water depth.
- Collect Three Species fin rays for age and growth study.
Results

- Native species = 20.8% of total catch
- Non-native species = 79.2% of total catch

Species composition (n=4,963)

- Flannelmouth Sucker
- Bluehead Sucker
- Roundtail Chub
- Speckled Dace
- Unidentified Native Sucker Fry
- Red Shiner
- Other Non-Native Fish Species
RESULTS

Upstream Stations: Native species = 94.1%
Downstream Stations: Natives species = 8.7%

Species composition L44-L56 (n=686)
- Flannelmouth Sucker: 36.3%
- Bluehead Sucker: 19.0%
- Roundtail Chub: 14.0%
- Speckled Dace: 11.5%
- Red Shiner: 9.5%
- Fathead Minnow: 4.8%
- Unidentified Native Sucker Fry: 1.1%

Species composition L58-L72 (n=4,270)
- Flannelmouth Sucker: 91.1%
- Bluehead Sucker: 0.9%
- Roundtail Chub: 4.6%
- Speckled Dace: 0.6%
- Red Shiner: 0.3%
- Other Non-Native Fish: 2.3%
- Unidentified Native Sucker Fry: 0.2%
Three Species Age and Growth Study

Goals:

- Gain a better understanding of three species population demographics/dynamics to guide management and conservation actions.
- Determine mean length at age, growth rates, age of recruitment, mortality rates.
- How Escalante River compares to other U.C.R.B. streams
- Examine habitat and environmental factors affecting fish populations