

From: [David Moskowitz](#)
To: [Rep Witt](#)
Cc: [Rep Gorsek](#); [Rep Sprenger](#); [Rep Reardon](#); [Rep Smith D](#); [Rep McKeown](#); [Rep Barreto](#); [Exhibits HNR](#)
Subject: No scientific evidence for incubation boxes - Report 3
Date: Monday, April 8, 2019 8:50:35 PM

Dear Chair Witt and members of the House Natural Resource Committee:

I am delivering to you a number of scientific research papers that have found that there is no evidence that release of un-fed fry, of any species of salmon or steelhead, results in returning adults.

3. This paper was from British Columbia where proponents cited incubation box success. The take home-point here is that this organization was unable to determine success because they could not mark the released fry and therefore, could do nothing more than estimate returns based on the percentage of other hatchery salmon that were marked and released and captured upon return.

This assumption is a serious WAG (wild-ass guess) as the returns they attributed to the incubation boxes could just as easily be wild fish returning from wild spawners.

<http://www.sehab.org/pdf/hatcheries.pdf>

Just like hatch boxes from the days of yore, incubation boxes are ineffective because there is good evidence that unfed fry do not survive to smolt, and even if they did, there is no way to test the theory because there is no marker to discover should there be returns.

The best thing everyone can do in southern Oregon is let wild salmon and steelhead be wild salmon and steelhead - leave the returning wild fish that escape anglers and predators to mate and spawn in the wild.

Very Sincerely,

David Moskowitz
The Conservation Angler