Snorkeling As an Alternative to Depletion Electrofishing for Assessing Cutthroat Trout and Brown Trout in Stream Pools

1. What two methods were used to estimate the abundance of Salmonids in Christensen Creek and Anderson Creek?

2. According to results, did one of the sampling techniques work better than the other when estimating the abundance of Salmonids? If so which method, and which species did it work better on?

3. Cutthroat Trout are more active in their pools during the day and can be easily observed in the water column whereas Brown Trout are more cover oriented and exhibit cryptic behavior and were found among aquatic macrophytes or under overhanging banks. Do you think this would make any difference when sampling and why?

4. What two factors were found that hindered the accuracy of the snorkeling results?

5. Why do you think snorkeling frequently failed to observe the smaller sized Salmonids of both species?

6. Why do you think companies or agencies still continue to use snorkeling as an alternative to electrofishing despite its inaccurate results?

7. Based on what you have learned from this article, what method would you choose to estimate the abundance of trout in stream pools?