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Subject: Last week's trip

Date: 10/21/2008 11:25 AM

Good morning,

I just wanted send a quick note to thank you for your assistance last week. It was great to meet most of you in-person, and we appreciate you taking the time to meet with us on Thursday morning.

We had a very successful weekend. We were able to visit and count at 6 of the 7 ramps you had suggested (ramps 4, 23, 44, 49, 55, and 72). We did not make it to ramp 43, but we were close enough at 44 that we think we have a good idea of what happened there. We were able to count during 2 fishing tournaments (and many fisherman thought we were judges). We also did some early evening counting. We even counted in the rain on Saturday. A number of people approached us and asked us questions, and it was clear some people knew what we were doing and tried to bias the counts (like hanging up a wet swimsuit on the post of the counter so that it dangled down low enough to break the beam and add more counts...it was incredible to see some of the things people did). © Overall everyone who approached us was friendly, and as you suggested, many have strong opinions.

We will take the next few days to pull all of our data together. Laura and I debriefed a couple of times on the trip about methods and our findings. The trip was very helpful to us in determining methods for when we go back in the spring and the summer. We were able to determine what kind of data we think we can collect, how we should collect it, best methods for conducting the intercept surveys, and many other things. As we finalize our findings, we'll be sure to share them with you.

Thank you again for your hospitality and your assistance.

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