

How to Conduct Mark/Recapture Survey on Minnows

1. Fill inside pocket of Promar collapsible minnow traps with bait (dog/catfood is effective)



2. Lay the traps, and tie them to a secure surface. Leave them overnight.



4. Place fish in bucket of water, noting how many fish were in each trap and recording the data.



3. The next day, return and remove fish by unzipping side opposite of bait pouch to put your hand through.



5. Use a ruler to measure each fish with either standard, fork, or total length (be consistent with your measurement type).



6. Using scissors snip off a piece from the ventral side of the caudal fin to mark the captured fish.



8. Refill bait on each trap and reset them in original areas.



7. Release the fish back into the area from which they were captured.



9. The next day, repeat steps 3 through 5.



10. Record how many fish have already been marked and be sure to clip the fins of unmarked fish.

11. Analyze data to determine approximate population size and distribution.



*This is not the only way to conduct a Mark/Recapture survey of minnows. This is merely an instructional example.