

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
FISH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

August 13, 2002

TO: Files

FROM: Leslie Sikora (WDFW StreamNet Data Manager)

SUBJECT: REFID 12000 (Dummy Reference for Null CountValue in StreamNet Data When Other Reference Unavailable)

When there are time gaps in records submitted to StreamNet, the data exchange format (DEF) allows submittal of a record that shows a null value (a blank CountValue). The existence of the record allows us to include noteworthy comments. These null value records need a reference code (RefID) per the StreamNet DEF.

When a publication or data source shows that data just wasn't collected we can use that data source's RefID. Yet, often we realize the data wasn't collected that year because the data just isn't mentioned in any data source. No data source confirms it, but, over time it becomes obvious. RefID 12000 is used to validate the data records we create under these circumstances and to conform with StreamNet's DEF.