The Deschutes River, Oregon, is iconic to steelhead sport anglers in the Pacific Northwest. Historically, steelhead fishery closures have been very rare on the Deschutes. However, in 2021, extremely low returns of wild steelhead prompted fishery managers to implement emergency closures and develop strategies to protect wild fish on the Deschutes. While long-term angler surveys and population monitoring on the Deschutes River have been ongoing since 1977, specific parameters to inform emergency management actions relating to the steelhead fishery were not defined. Thus, in 2022, a fishery management framework was developed and implemented to provide structure and public transparency for management actions within the Deschutes River summer steelhead fishery.