

Monthly Progress Report

DATE: April 6, 2009

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FROM: Wallowa Hatchery – Jeremy Sommer

SUBJECT: Monthly Progress Report for April 2009

Fish Culture

Wallowa

Captive Spring Chinook Parr

Current captive parr program summarized below. No stated goal for loss or survival rate.

Stock/Cohort	Number Collected (life stage)	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
GR/07 - Conventional	159	150	0	0	150	100%	26	Yes
GR/07- Conventional (LG)	150	150	0	0	150	100%	20	Yes
80Z08	162(alevin)	160	0	0	150	106%	206	Yes

*LG is being used in this report to designate fish received from Lookingglass Hatchery to replace the 150 parr which normally would be collected from the Grande Ronde River. Parr collection from the Grande Ronde River has been unsuccessful thus far.

- The staff has continued daily feeding, photo period adjustments and tank maintenance.
- Attempts to catch the two groups of GR07 stocks up to each other before transfer on May 6th has been pretty successful. The two groups are 22 and 21 f/lb respectively.
- 150 wild-bred juvenile Chinook will be collected from the Grand Ronde this summer.

- The 80 Z 08 group have quickly moved on to the #2 crumb and few if any of the fish appear to be lagging behind in size.
- Don Hair and Sally Gee were here on the 27th for quarterly inventory and samples.

Summer Steelhead Smolts

Stock/Cohort	Number received (life stage)	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
5608	112,188 (smolts)	112,015	258,351	224	112,000	100	3.6	Yes

- The first acclimation group was released on April 12th and 13th. We received the second acclimation group during April 15-17. A 13 day volitional release began on April 25th. This group will be forcibly released on May 7th. The exact number on hand at month's end is unknown. The number appearing on the table above is a count at the time of release.

Wallowa Hatchery Steelhead Adults

- Adult numbers peaked during the last week of March and first week of April. Numbers of adults dropped precipitously towards the end of the month. Food banking was discontinued at the end of April due to fish quality. Overall, the run this year has exceeded predictions by over 800 fish.
- 3178 adults have been collected at Wallowa Hatchery of which 500 are RV clipped adults and 25 wild. Of the collected adults, 1754 have been donated to food banks, 92 donated to schools and 260 released to ponds.
- Spawning was completed on April 22nd. We have had 7 spawns and collected 1,224,000 eggs from 240 pairs of adults. Of this number, 76,500 eggs were collected for Lyon's Ferry hatchery in Washington.

Lot Species	Number Collected	Number On Hand	No. of females to spawn Goal	% of Goal	Expect to Meet Goal? (Yes or No)
5609 STS	2678	0	180	100%	yes
5609 – STS (RV clipped)	500	0	45	100%	Yes

*RV clipped adults are the progeny of the Fall Collected Brood program

72T07 Rainbow Trout, 72T08 Rainbow Trout

The production goal for these fish is 40,000 fish at 3/lb to be released into Wallowa County lakes and ponds from April through August 2009; we currently do not have enough fish on hand to meet this goal. The balance will be made up from Irrigon Hatchery.

Stock/Cohort	Number received (life stage)	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
72 T 07 RBT	19782 (parr)	31712	5751	125	40,000		4.1	Yes
72 T 07 RBT (Trophy)	319 (1/2 pound)	305	0	2	none		.8	Yes
72 T 08	500	393	0	8	60	661%	399	Yes

- Mortality has slipped down to a steady 0-2/day/pond. Fish size and health appear to be exceeding our expectations at this point.
- There were three liberations of legal sized trout this month resulting in the out-plant of 5751 to Marr Pond, Wallowa Wildlife Pond and Wallowa Lake.
- The whirling disease test trout continue to eat well and show healthy activity levels. They are now feeding on #1 crumb.

Big Canyon
Summer Steelhead Smolts

Stock/Cohort	Number received (life stage)	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
5608	140,173 (smolts)	2,658	282,021	794	156,000	90%	3.42	no

- 1st acclimation group was released on April 15-17. The second acclimation group was received between April 17 and 20. This group was received under good conditions and appears to be in excellent shape. The second acclimation group began its volitional release on April 29th and will be completed on May 12th. The fish remaining in the pond (2,658) will have a sex ratio analysis to determine whether they will be out-planted or forced out.
- We did not receive enough smolts to meet our production goal for second acclimation.

Steelhead Adults

Lot Species	Number Collected	Number On Hand	No. of females to spawn Goal	% of Goal	Expect to Meet Goal? (Yes or No)
5609 STS	1693	0	0	100%	yes

- Fish attracting flows on Deer Creek continued in earnest throughout the month including during the run peak at the beginning of the month. At months end, 1633 hatchery adults and 60 wild fish had entered the trap exceeding projections for the hatchery return this year. At months end, 1566 were donated to schools and food banks (including re-runs), and 108 recycled downstream.

Little Sheep

Summer Steelhead Smolts

- On March 31st, the acclimation group at Little Sheep began a 28 day volitional release. The remainder of the smolts (4,733), were sex-ratio tested at the end of the release period. They were found to have an unacceptable ratio for forced release, and instead, were liberated into Kinney Lake (a closed water body).
- We did not receive enough smolts to meet our production goal.

Stock/ Cohort	Number received (life stage)	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
2908	148,246 (smolts)	0	4,733(Kinney) 148,246 (Little Sheep)	100	165,000		4.2	No

Steelhead Adults

- There were 4 spawns in April despite a slow run. This is the second year in a row that the run has been late to the facility. There are strong concerns that the run is almost over at more than 800 fish shy of projections. Oddly, the wild run this year has exceeded projections. Keep/pass ratios were adjusted mid-month to reflect current run conditions, but, despite this, by months end, we were keeping what fish we needed to make our spawning goal. At this time, it appears that we will be able to meet our needs although another couple males swimming into the trap would be real nice.

- 1189 adults including 162 wild have been collected as of April 30th. Fluctuation in run timing is not unusual with this stock. Of the 1189 adults, 69 have been released in Little Sheep Creek as well as 143 wild, and 772 hatchery adults went into Big Sheep Creek.
- At month's end, 42 pairs of adults were spawned for an estimated egg take of 199,500. There have been 5 spawns so far.

Lot Species	Number Collected	Number On Hand	No. of females to spawn Goal	% of Goal	Expect to Meet Goal? (Yes or No)
2909 STS	1189	37	63	67%	yes

Fish Health

- The captive fish continue to show excellent appearance and activity levels. The 07' stock is ready for transfer to Bonneville.
- In general, the trout appear to be in pretty decent condition. Mortality has dropped greatly. Formalin may be used if warranted in the future.
- Show pond trout are recovering from their spawning season. We expect some drop outs still but they are definitely over the hump.
- Whirling disease test fish continue to show excellent health.
- All smolts still on station have passed health exams and are in the middle of volitional releases.

Fish Distributions

Wallowa

- This Month, 21 wild adults were returned to the Wallowa River. Food bank give-aways from Wallowa Hatchery for this month come to the following totals: 178 adults to AARP of La Grande, 165 adults to Lighthouse Church, 44 adults to Enterprise food bank, 199 adults to Union food bank and 371 adults to Baker City food banks. 92 adults were given to schools.
- 449,200 eyed eggs were shipped to Irrigon this month.

- 258,351 smolts were released from the first acclimation group on April 13th. The second acclimation group consisted of 112,188 smolts received from Irrigon mid-month and is currently on a volitional release.

Big Canyon

- Fish distributions for Big Canyon this month include 53 wild adults to Deer Creek, 101 adults to the North Powder Food bank, 336 adults to Lighthouse Church, 204 adults to Elgin food bank, 50 adults to Wallowa community connections food bank, 82 adults to Baker City Food Bank, 143 adults to AARP of La Grande, 30 adults to schools, and 51 adults recycled downstream at the Minam boat ramp.
- 144,878 smolts from the 1st acclimation group were released on April 16 and 17th. 140,173 smolts were received from Irrigon hatchery on the 17th. 137,143 smolts volitionally left during the second release.

Little Sheep

- 142,103 smolts have been released from the acclimation pond. The remaining 4,733 smolts were liberated into Kinney Lake..
- 895 adults were released into Little Sheep and Big Sheep creeks.

Maintenance

Wallowa

- This month fish culture took precedence and occupied most of our time.
- Work began on the construction of large wooden crowders to be used during fish pump operations.
- Our host made 25 swallow boxes and placed them around our mosquito zones.
- Ken Knifong of Knifong electric was here and worked with Chad to reroute a perimeter alarm to the pond alarms on ponds 6-8. The radio alarm previously installed at that location required major work which came with a big price tag. This permanent repair will end up being a more reliable and cost efficient system.
- Chad repaired the spawning room door.

Big Canyon

- Chuck trimmed up and reinforced the hole in the spawning shed roof which was cut to allow access to the new fish lift.
- Sue continued cleaning up brush, trimming bushes and shrubs.

Little Sheep

- Steve re-paired the truck fill line and the septic tank covers.

- Sue built a flower box.

NPDES Waste Discharge Permit Monitoring

- April was a sampling month of highest production. Water, flow, and pH samples were collected as required.
- The daily chemical use log was updated onto our monthly chemical use log as required.
- The DMR for March was completed this month.

Public Outreach

- 3350 adults were donated to 7 food banks in the three county area. 145 adults were also donated to schools this year.
- The display signs were updated weekly to reflect current fish runs.
- There were several tours were held for school groups this month.

Miscellaneous

- Jeremy attended chainsaw training in La Grande on the 23rd.

Personnel Status

- We were fully staffed this month.
- Lookingglass hatchery sent two employees to Wallowa to help with spawning on the 6th.

As Of 4/30/09

Adult StS Collection and Distribution

		On Hand		Collected		Released		Spawned	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Wallowa	Hatchery	0	0	1116	1537	0	0	177	180
5609 StS	Wild	0	0	14	11	13	9	0	0
	RV	0	0	247	253	0	0	48	45

		On Hand		Collected		Released		Re-Runs	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Big Canyon	Hatchery	0	0	642	991	44	64	26	33
5609 StS	Wild	0	0	26	34	26	34	0	0

		On Hand		Collected		Released		Spawned	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Little Sheep	Hatchery	17	13	474	553	424	511	33	30
2909 StS	Wild	2	5	59	103	57	86	0	12

Distribution

Distribution	Food Banks		To Ponds		Wallowa R Upstream		Wallowa R Downstream	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5609 StS								
Hatchery	1271	2079	166	86	0	0	44	64
Wild								

Distribution	Little Sheep		Big Sheep		Bull Trout	Little Sheep		Big Canyon
	M	F	M	F		Total to Date	Trap Status	
2909 StS						0	0	
Hatchery	41	28	347	425	Trap Status	Open	Open	
Wild	52	86	0	0				

As of 4/30/09

StS Egg Collection Summary

Wallowa	Females	Estimated	% Egg Loss	Eyed Eggs	Actual
	Spawned	Egg Take		Shipped	Fecundity
5609 StS	240	1,224,000	20.3%	449,200	6,010

Little Sheep	Females	Estimated	% Egg Loss	Eyed Eggs	Actual
	Spawned	Egg Take		Shipped	Fecundity
2909 StS	42	199,500	0.0%	0	0

Wallowa Fall Collected	Females	Estimated	% Egg Loss	Eyed Eggs	Actual
	Spawned	Egg Take		Shipped	Fecundity
5609 StS	42	214,200	20.3%	74,000	4,884

Wallowa Fall Collected- is for information only. FCB females spawned and egg take are not in addition to the Wallowa numbers above but are part of the total

As of 4/30/09

Monthly StS Smolt Summary Sheet

Wallowa	On Hand (end of month)			Received (this month)		Liberated (this month)	
	Number	Pounds	No/Lb	Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds
5607	0	0	0.00	112,188	31,550	370,403	97,023

Big Canyon	On Hand (end of month)			Received (this month)		Liberated (this month)	
	Number	Pounds	No/Lb	Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds
5607	2,658	778	3.42	140,173	43,030	282,021	79,113

Little Sheep	On Hand (end of month)			Received (this month)		Liberated (this month)	
	Number	Pounds	No/Lb	Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds
2907	0	0	0.00	0	0	4,733	1,125