



Mora National Fish Hatchery

April 2015

Fry Hatching Begins

Spawning was completed in April, and overall it was a very successful year. Approximately 140 genetically appropriate crosses were viable for Main and South Diamond lineages; just shy of the 80 crosses per lineage outlined in the Broodstock Management Plan. Whiskey Creek resulted in 35 genetically crosses. Unfortunately, there were no viable crosses from either Iron or Spruce Creek, but hatchery staff is optimistic that they will produce offspring next year. As a result of direct fertilization, incubation changes, and appropriate genetic crosses, the average eye-up was triple the long term average. The Hatchery expects to exceed recovery requests for the Main Diamond, South Diamond, and Whiskey Creek lineages this year.



Outdoor Classroom

Hatchery staff presented two exhibits at the annual Outdoor Classroom held in Mora including an archery demonstration and training station, and the living stream display that highlights Gila Trout Recovery. The event was attended by approximately 100 children from the Mora school district. Jessie Jobs from the Regional Office was also in attendance and documented the event.

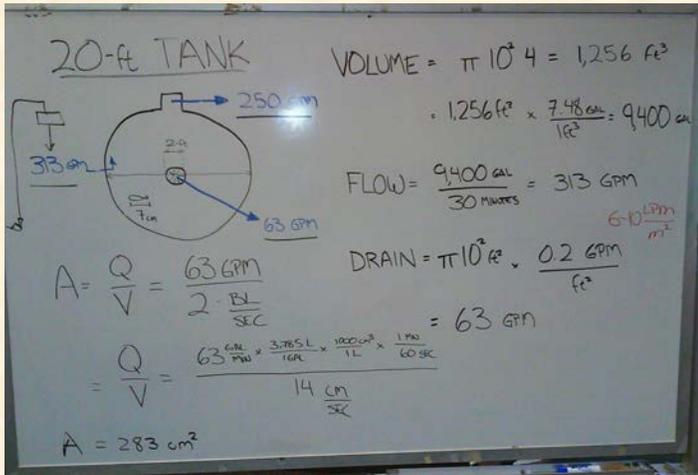
Cryopreservation Success!

Of the three milt extenders tested, the Glucose-Methanol extender proved superior to Hank's balanced salt solution and Cloud extender. The preserved fertilization rate with this extender was equal to fresh sperm in several cases. Bill Wayman was "very happy" with the results.



Water Reuse Class

Nate Wiese and the Freshwater Institute arranged a class to be held at the BLM training facility in Phoenix, AZ on April 28-29. All hatchery staff was in attendance except for Nate, who “manned” the facility. Attendees were from State and Federal agencies, engineering companies, manufacturers, and the Canadian government.



Cattail Removal

The water level on the hatchery polishing pond had been slowly dropped over the preceding months to allow the removal of overgrown cattails along the water's edge. The Bobcat was then deployed to remove the root structures without damaging the Bennonite underlayment. This will remove bound phosphorus from the hatchery's effluent.



Late Season Snowstorm

The hatchery received a late season heavy snowfall during the last week of April that cut power to the rearing buildings. Emergency power and procedures worked perfectly, and all was well.

Quarantine System

After a hiatus during spawning season, work resumed on the new Visitor's Center quarantine system. Items completed include running influent lines, positioning the second bank of circular tanks, installing the elliptical filters, and installing drain lines.





Production Lineage	Brood Year	Purpose	Location	Number	Mortality	Sample (fpp)	Length (in)	Biomass (lbs)
Main Diamond	2010	Wild	Visitor Center	17	1	0.3	20.0	60
	2011	Brood	Raceway 2B	63	7	0.3	18.6	233
	2012	Brood	Raceway 2T	218	15	0.7	15.3	311
	2013	Brood	Raceway 1T	492	29	0.9	14.0	547
	2013	Recovery	Raceway 1B	195	1	0.9	14.1	217
	2014	Brood	Raceway 6T	1,119	1	5.2	7.8	215
	2015	Brood	AQ, 30	4,082	115	2500	1	1.6
	2015	Recovery	SR, 96	23,073	739	2500	1	9.2
	2015	Exper.	96	6,358	0	2500	1	2.5
Total				35,625	902	22.3	4.7	1,596.3

South Diamond	2011	Brood	Raceway 4B	65	4	0.3	19.2	212
	2012	Wild	Shady Acres	147	1	2.3	10.3	64
	2012	Brood	Raceway 4T	220	6	0.6	15.8	377
	2013	Brood	Raceway 3T	406	4	1.0	13.7	410
	2013	Recovery	Raceway 3B	83	1	1.5	11.4	56
	2014	Brood	Raceway 7T	740	0	8.2	6.7	90
	2014	Recovery	Raceway 7B	1295	0	7	7.4	185
	2015	Brood	AQ, 30	4,413	107	2500	1	1.8
	2015	Recovery	SR, 96	24,150	1,705	2500	1	9.7
2015	Exper.	96	12,975	0	2500	1	5.2	
Total				44,494	1,828	31.5	4.3	1,410.7

Whiskey Creek	2011	Wild	Whiskey Creek	86	2	0.4	17.0	220
	2011	Wild	Visitor Center	40	0	0.4	17.0	100
	2014	Brood	Raceway 8T	647	0	7.5	6.9	94
	2015	Brood	AQ	1,360	6	2500	1	0.5
	2015	Recovery	SR, 96, 30	11,881	0	2500	1	4.8
Total				14,014	8	33.4	4.2	419.3

Spruce Creek	2010	Wild	Spruce Creek	28	0	3	9.4	9
	2013	Wild	Spruce Creek	18	0	8	6.4	2
	2014	Brood	RW Circular	52	5	3.9	8.6	16
	2014	Wild	Spruce Creek	13	0	20	5	1
Total				111	5	4.3	8.4	27

Iron Creek	2011	Wild	Shady Acres	32	0	1.4	12.1	23
	Total				32	0	1.4	12.1

Total All Lineages				94,276	2,743	28	4.5	3,480.3
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Priscilla Jansen-Toland Arrives

Priscilla joined the hatchery on April 2, arriving from a previous volunteer stint at Bosque del Apache NWR. She immediately joined in with work around the hatchery, and was crucial in enumerating eggs and fry.



In Brief

- Annual EPA WET testing was completed in April.
- Mid year performance reviews were completed on April 8.
- Lori Casados and Priscilla attended a career day at Highlands University in Las Vegas on April 23.

Upcoming Events

- The Living Stream display will be at Coyote Creek State Park on May 1 for the Mora/Colfax County Headstart program.
- Lori Casados will be at a Diversity Advisory Committee event in the Regional Office on May 5.
- The Living Stream Display will be at the Mora High School for a health fair on May 5.
- Forklift safety training to be held at Mora NFH on May 12.
- Oklahoma State University Summer Forestry Camp to visit on May 13.
- Rocky Mountain Youth Corp to visit on May 27.

Hatchery Staff

Nate Wiese, Project Leader
Lori Casados, Admin. Assistant
Jeff Conway, Fish Biologist
Grant Langmaid, Fish Biologist
Richie Garcia, Maintenance Worker
Stuart Wilkins, Biological Technician
Daniel Gallegos, Intern
Sandy Kalb, Volunteer
Priscilla Jansen-Toland, Volunteer

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