



Mora National Fish Hatchery

July 2016

RMYC Begins

Eight area youth employed by the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp began their summer project with Mora NFH on July 13, 2016. This project was the continued thinning of hatchery grounds for fire prevention. The project area this year was from the fence line behind the hatchery building following the property line out to Highway 434. Hatchery staff preceded the crew, using pole-saws to trim existing conifers. The RMYC were responsible for collecting the trimmings and feeding the bush chipper. Progress has been steady, but it appears the project will fall short of its ambitious goal. The remainder of the project will be completed in 2017 with the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps.





Volunteers Tim and Cozette

Volunteers Tim and Cozette Christian joined Mora NFH in June as volunteers for approximately 3 months. Tim and Cozette have assisted the hatchery staff with projects including painting, repair, and landscaping of the hatchery's residences; expansion of the butterfly garden area, cleaning and painting of hatchery buildings; and extending the walking trail system.

Daniel on Detail

Pathways Student Daniel Gallegos performed a two week detail at the Saratoga National Fish Hatchery in Saratoga, Wyoming. During his detail he assisted with the daily care of the endangered Wyoming Toad, including siphoning tadpole tanks and feeding roaches that are cultured on station as a food source for the toads.



Jeremiah Olivas Starts

Jeremiah Olivas was selected as Mora's newest term Biological Science Technician. His official first day was July 5. Jeremiah had previously worked at the facility as an intern from Luna Community College where he performed a 100 hour internship provided by the Accelerate Program. He later volunteered at the Hatchery after his internship ended. Please Welcome "Jerry" to the region.



Human Resources Retreat

The Mora National Fish Hatchery hosted a retreat for Region 2's Division of Human Resources on July 5, 2016. In addition to providing an in-depth tour of the facility, hatchery staff provided archery instruction to interested parties, and a wild game barbeque to the department.

Mescalero FH Visit

Project Leader Nate Wiese visited the Mescalero Tribal Hatchery with Stuart Leon from the Southwest Tribal Fish Commission on July 11, 2016. The visit followed-up on a site visit by Jeff Conway and Jae Ahn in 2015 to develop an infrastructure plan to address Bacterial Kidney Disease contamination. Proposed changes included greenhouse frameworks for covering outdoor raceways, Low Head Oxygenation systems for increasing dissolved oxygen, and a partial re-use system.



Audubon Society Outreach

Staff Member Grant Langmaid and DFP Candidate Colleen Grant represented the hatchery at the Audubon Society's annual summer camp in Santa Fe, NM on July 13. Included in his presentation was Mora's Living Stream display that allows the public to view the rare Gila trout.



Fish Health Inspection

Southwestern Native ARRC Fish Health Unit biologists Dave Hampton, Jason Woodland, and Aaron Frater-Schmidt conducted the annual fish health inspection on July 15, 2016. This process ensures that the hatchery continues to stock high quality, disease free fish into waters in Arizona and New Mexico.

Student Gathering

Colleen Grant (DFP), Jeremiah Olivas (Bio Tech), and Daniel Gallegos (Pathways Intern) attended the Region 2 end of the summer intern wrap up workshop in Albuquerque, NM at the Regional Office. All three of them had a great time and were able to get some valuable advice from employees in the Regional Office.



Mora's YCC to Maxwell NWR

Staff member Dustin Wagner and YCC students Megan and Amarisa assisted personnel from the Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge with walking trail maintenance on July 20. Maxwell NWR YCC students then assisted the Hatchery with it's fire thinning project on July 27. This exchange gives the students exposure to the differing programs found in the USFWS.



Stock on Hand

Production Lineage	Brood Year	Purpose	Location	Number	Mortality	Sample (fpp)	Length (in)	Biomass (lbs)
Main Diamond	2014	Brood	Raceway 1B	582	34	0.6	16.1	970
	2014	Wild	VC East 2	65	0	3.8	8.8	17
	2015	Brood	R1T	818	31	3.2	8.9	256
	2016	Brood	ZHAB, 30	1,877*	9	125	2.5	15
	2016	Recovery	SR:1,7 250's, 30	22,464*	526	125	2.5	180
	2016	4D	SR, 380, 2500	16,117*	231	71	3.3	227
	Total				41,923	831	25.2	4.6
South Diamond	2014	Brood	Raceway 7	502	20	0.6	16.1	838
	2015	Brood	R2T	724	39	2.8	9.5	259
	2016	Brood	ZHAB, 30	1,553*	13	125	2.5	12.4
	2016	Recovery	SR, 2500	12,301*	57	80.4	3.2	153
	2016	4D	SR, 30	10,693*	84	62.5	3.4	133
	Total				25,773	213	18.5	5.1
Whiskey Creek	2014	Brood	Raceway 8	433	17	0.85	16.1	511
	2015	Brood	R3T	530	52	3.0	9.3	188
	2015	Recovery	R4T	750*	13	2.5	9.6	300
	2016	Brood	AQ	791*	2	125	2.5	6.3
	2016	Recovery	250, 30	1,000*	7	125	2.5	8
	Total				3,504	91	4.3	8.4
Spruce Creek	10/13/14	Wild	Spruce Creek 2	36	0	0.8	~13	34.3
	2014	Brood	Spruce Creek 1	34	1	0.6	15.7	57
	2016	Brood	C8	28	10	125	2.5	1
	Total			98	11	1.1	13.2	92
Iron Creek	2011	Wild	Spruce Creek 3,4	25	6	0.6	16.1	42
	2013	Wild	VC East 3,4	91	1	5.0	8.1	18
	Total			116	7	1.9	11.0	60
Total All Lineages				71,414	1,153	17.7	5.2	4,025

*Inventory numbers updated from sample counts. Broodstock densities reduced. Mortalities include fish health sampling.

BonyTail	2011	Wild	Shady Acres	1,261	1	3.6	10.1	353
	Total			1,261		3.6	10.1	353



Mescalero Tribal Youth Visit

Three staff members and 14 youth from The Mescalero Tribal Hatchery visited Mora on July 20. The visitors were given a detailed tour of the facility before assisting the biological staff with recording PIT tag numbers on 1 and 2 year old broodstock.

Upcoming Events

- Colleen Grant to visit Bosque del Apache NWR on August 1-3.
- Hatchery Staff to attend Summer Gila Trout Recovery Team Meeting on August 4, 2016. Colleen Grant will present her project to the Team.
- Richie Garcia on detail to Las Vegas NWR on August 8-12.
- Daniel Gallegos and Jeremiah Olivas's last day will be August 12 as they return to Eastern New Mexico University.
- Pit tagging broodstock on August 11-19.
- Adipose clip and VIE tag DFP Colleen Grant's research fish during August 22 to September 2.

In Brief

Hatchery doors were painted throughout the hatchery due to sun fading.

The settling pond diversion valve was removed and replaced.

The walking trail to the polishing pond was expanded.

Colleen Grant gave a presentation to hatchery staff and volunteers entitled "Generational Differences".

Hatchery Staff

Nate Wiese, Project Leader
Lori Casados, Admin. Assistant
Jeff Conway, Fish Biologist
Grant Langmaid, Fish Biologist
Richie Garcia, Maintenance Worker
Dustin Wagner Biological Technician
Daniel Gallegos, Intern
Jeremiah Olivas, Bio. Technician
Colleen Grant, DFP Candidate
Sandy Kalb, Volunteer
Tim and Cozette Christian, Volunteer

Contact Us

Mora NFH
PO Box 689
Highway 434 Mile Marker 2
Mora, NM 87732
575-387-6022
575-387-9030 (fax)