



ALCHESAY-WILLIAMS CREEK NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY COMPLEX WHITERIVER, ARIZONA



MONTHLY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

December 2014

*Bruce Thompson – Complex Manager
Carrie Gregory – Administrative Technician*

ALCHESAY UNIT

*Gene Okamoto – Unit Leader
Pete Drevnick – Maintenance Worker/Motor Vehicle Operator
Jeff Cody – Motor Vehicle Operator
Joyner George – WMAT Fisheries
Chadwick “Sharkey” Amos – Volunteer
Travis Taylor – Laborer*

WILLIAMS CREEK UNIT

*Bradley Clarkson – Unit Leader
Russell Wood – Fish Biologist
Vacant – Maintenance Specialist
Mike Figueroa – Motor Vehicle Operator
Jimmy Smith – Motor Vehicle Operator
Isaiah Paxson – Animal Caretaker
Carol Walker – Volunteer
Jonathon Walker – Volunteer*



PARTNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

- All requisite water sampling for the EPA was completed for both units.
- On December 17th the Alchesay unit hosted a meeting between members of New Mexico Game and Fish and the Navajo and Zuni tribes to discuss the use of the facility as a refuge for the Zuni Bluehead Sucker. This was a cursory meeting, that involved touring the grounds, and at this time there is no plan in place for the Zuni Bluehead Sucker to be reared at Alchesay.
- Due to the Holidays and conflicting schedules, there was no WMAT-WORD/USFWS Tribal Coordination meeting held during the month of December.

AQUATIC SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT:

- Hatchery personnel drove 1,212 miles to deliver 12,650 rainbow trout (~8-9.5” length) to Pueblo and Navajo Nation Tribal partners. In addition, 60,978 6” rainbow trout were transferred from the Williams Creek unit to the Alchesay unit during the first half of the month.
- Apache trout spawning season at Williams Creek is in full force. In December eggs were taken from 650 three year old brood stock females and 75 two year old females. Approximately 650,000 eggs were fertilized and are in incubation in 62 vertical flow incubation trays. Both the male and female brood-stock were fed enhanced nutritional feed three months prior to spawntaking. The first lots are just now beginning to “eye up”. Eye-up survivals will be reported next month after additional lots have been shocked and picked.



Photo 1: APT females are anesthetized to reduce stress and allow handling to check for egg maturation and viability.



Photo 2: APT eggs are expressed from female fish into a bowl and shortly thereafter are fertilized with milt from 2 yr. old males.

- Ovarian fluid samples were taken from 150 Apache trout and shipped to Dexter, New Mexico where they will be evaluated for fish health pathogens.
- The Williams Creek unit received a shipment of 90,354 brown trout eggs from Saratoga National Fish Hatchery.

PUBLIC USE AND OUTREACH:

- The complex received 11 visitors this month. The holidays and cold weather have led to a reduction in visitors at both units.

WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT:

- Carol Walker continues to provide valuable assistance at the Williams Creek unit. She provided 138 hours this month with fish culture duties and building maintenance.
- Carol's son, Jonathon Walker, joined the volunteer workforce at Williams Creek in December and provided 108 hours toward outside fish culture duties and grounds maintenance. We are very happy to have Jonathon and Carol as a part of our team!



- All supervisors completed their annual supervisor safety training.
- Staff began conducting interviews for the maintenance worker position at the Williams Creek unit. A candidate has not been selected yet, but interviews will continue into January.
- The annual Christmas party was held on December 19th. Staff from both facilities and their families gathered at Williams Creek for an informal potluck and white elephant gift exchange.



LEADERSHIP IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

- **Pete Drevnick and Travis Taylor continue with Pond 3 modifications. During December concrete and rock were delivered and tie rods were secured to prevent shifting during concrete pouring. Unfortunately progress has been slow due to rain, snow, mud, cold, and other adverse weather conditions in the area.**



ANFH: Concrete truck ready to unload cement into trench to secure tie rods as deadheads to anchor panels.