



Mora National Fish Hatchery

December 2014

Recirculation System 3 Maintenance

System 3 was shut down for maintenance and repairs in December. The last time that this system was down for maintenance was in 2010. Work completed thus far has been removal of the 80 micron filter panels, removal of the drum filter seal, removal of sprayer nozzles and brackets, and pressure washing of all parts. Work in January and February will include replacement of nozzles and panels and seals, resealing of circular tanks upstairs, and the installation of the new UV disinfection unit.



Volunteer Angelica Solono

Angelica worked as a paid intern at the hatchery for 100 hours during November and December. She is currently a student at Luna Community College and the position was financed by the Regional Development Corporation. The staff greatly appreciated her help. Thanks Angelica!

Visitor's Center Displays Installed

The staff continues to work on the Visitor Center upgrades. Items completed in December include the installation of the 90 gallon aquariums with chillers, the hanging of freshly framed outreach posters, and the creation of a children's area.





Spruce Creek Spawning

During PIT tagging of the Spruce Creek lineage of Gila trout in early December, several fish were found to be producing eggs. Five crosses have thus far been taken, and they were placed in the hatchery's isolation incubation system.

Stuart Wilkins Starts

Stuart Wilkins, Mora's new term Bio-Tech started on December 1. Stuart is a native of South Carolina, and was recently employed by Red Rocks NWR in Region 6. Please welcome Stuart to Region 2.



Bulk Propane Tank Repairs

Mora's bulk propane tank was badly in need of upgrades and repairs to bring the tank up to the current code. A contractor from Santa Fe was selected and temporary repairs were completed in December. Additional fencing, valving, and shut-off modifications will be needed to permanently bring the 12,000 gallon tank up to compliance standards.

Raceway Baffles Installed

Staff installed new screen slots and baffle plates into three raceways in December. The baffles will force the water down and under thereby effectively moving solids along in each tank. This will greatly improve conditions in the rearing unit and should also reduce weekly manpower for cleaning.





New Building Signs

Hatchery staff installed new signs on all buildings during December. This will allow visitors and volunteers to orient themselves more quickly at the facility.

Aquarium Frames under Construction

Two new aquarium frames were under construction by hatchery staff. These new frames will add 32 additional families that the hatchery will be able to keep separate during spawning. Keeping the families separate and identifiable will reduce costs during genetic testing as we are now able to test a small fraction of each family instead of all members. And at \$25 a test, the cost savings are considerable.



New Circular Tank

A new circular tank was installed along the south wall on the raceway section of the hatchery building. Spruce Creek lineage domestic broodstock will inhabit the new tank and this will expose this lineage to same temperature regime and photoperiod as the other domestic lineages.

Volunteers

Dominique Lujan and William Lubenau volunteered at the hatchery during their Holiday break. They both attend New Mexico State University and are majoring in fisheries. Dominique is originally from the Mora area. Thanks for the help!





Production Lineage	Brood Year	Purpose	Location	Number	Mortality	Sample (fpp)	Length (in)	Biomass (lbs)
Main Diamond	2010	Wild	Visitor Center	19	0	0.3	20.0	69
	2011	Brood	Raceway 2B	72	0	0.4	18.3	200
	2012	Brood	Raceway 2T	238	4	0.8	14.8	298
	2013	Brood	Raceway 1T	525	0	1.0	13.6	525
	2013	Recovery	Raceway 1B	197	0	1.0	13.7	198
	2014	Brood	Raceway 5T	1123	0	15.7	5.4	72
	Total				2174	4	1.6	11.6

South Diamond	2011	Brood	Raceway 4B	70	0	0.4	18.8	200
	2012	Wild	Shady Acres	148	0	2.5	10.0	60
	2012	Brood	Raceway 4T	228	0	0.7	15.3	325
	2013	Brood	Raceway 3T	414	1	1.1	13.2	384
	2013	Recovery	Raceway 3B	84	0	0.4	11.4	215
	2014	Brood	Raceway 7T	747	0	22.8	4.8	33
	2014	Recovery	Raceway 7B	1297	0	20.0	5.0	65
Total				2988	1	2.3	10.2	1282

Whiskey Creek	2011	Wild	Whiskey Creek	95	2	0.5	17.0	194
	2011	Wild	Visitor Center	40	0	0.5	17.0	80
	2014	Brood	Raceway 8T	649	0	21.6	5.0	30
	Total			784	2	2.6	9.9	304

Spruce Creek	2010	Wild	Spruce Creek	42	2	4.2	8.4	10
	2013	Wild	Spruce Creek	19	0	19.0	5.1	1
	2014	Brood	RW Circular	62	1	8.4	6.7	8
	2014	Wild	Spruce Creek	14	3	107.7	2.9	0
	Total			137	6	7.4	7.0	19

Iron Creek	2011	Wild	Shady Acres	40	0	1.6	11.6	25
	Total			40	0	1.6	11.6	25

Total All Lineages				6123	13	2.0	10.7	2991
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New Water Inlets

A new design for water inlet in the isolation systems was installed in December. The design was suggested Jack Christiansen, who visited the hatchery in November. The new inlet injects water into the column at multiple heights to create a much stronger circular motion, thereby effectively making the tanks self cleaning.



In Brief

Nate Wiese teleconferenced with the NCTC Coldwater Fish Culture Course coordination meeting on December 15.

Sacred Power repaired the two damaged solar panels in the hatchery's array.

Nate Wiese, Jeff Conway, and Grant Langmaid attend the Gila Trout Recovery Team meeting on December 18 and 19 in Albuquerque.

Upcoming Events

- Archery Instructor certification class for hatchery staff on January 12.
- Grant Langmaid (student) and Nate Wiese (instructor) will be attending NCTC for the Coldwater Fish Culture class on January 25 through February 7.
- Jeff Conway will be on a detail at Uvalde NFH from January 12 to February 10.
- Hatchery staff will present a hands-on demonstration to the Mora School District Science Club on January 28

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

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