



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dworshak Fisheries Complex

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Fisheries Supervisor, Columbia Basin Ecoregion  
Region 1, Portland, OR

From: Complex Manager  
Dworshak Fisheries Complex

Subject: **Monthly Activity Report –January, 2009**

### **Fish Management Culture**

#### ***Dworshak***

#### **SPRING CHINOOK SALMON (SCS)**

##### ***Brood Year 2007 (BY07)***

At the end of the month there were 1,025,418 BY07 SCS averaging 25 fish per pound (fpp) and 130 mm (5.1 inches) total length on station. These fish are being held in A and B-Bank raceways (RW's). Mortality for the month averaged 0.22 percent. Water temperature averaged 41.7°F and flow averaged 500 gpm/RW.

A total of 51,609 SCS Passive Integrated Transponder Tag (PIT) tagged as part of a comparative survival study of smolts to be transported downriver (trucking and barging) versus river-run fish. The study compares the adult return rate of each group.

There were no medical or chemical treatments given to these fish during the month.

##### ***Brood Year 2008***

At the end of the month there were 368,486 eyed eggs of Dworshak stock incubating at Dworshak National Fish Hatchery (DNFH). Chilled incubation water temperature for the month averaged 36.6°F and the SCS are currently targeted to go on feed in April, 2009. There were also 820,000 eyed eggs of Dworshak stock transferred to Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (KNFH) in October, 2008 for incubation over the winter. Initial rearing of the fish will occur at KNFH and then transferred back to DNFH and reared in the A and B Bank Raceways until release in the spring of 2010.

## COHO SALMON (COS)

### ***Brood Year 2007***

At the end of the month, there were 283,941 BY07 COS in C-Bank RWs averaging 20 fpp and 133mm (5.2 inches) total length. Mortality for the month was 0.3 percent. Water temperature averaged 41.7°F and flow averaged 408 gpm/RW.

There were no medical or chemical treatments given to these fish during the month.

### ***Brood Year 2008***

Egg Takes 1-4 (622,000 fry) were transferred from the incubation room to nursery tanks in C/D-bank during the month. These fry started on feed and will be transferred to outside Burrows ponds (BP's) in March. Approximately 333,000 fry from Take 5 remained in the incubation trays by the end of the month. The production goal for Coho at Dworshak is 280,000 presmolts.

## SUMMER STEELHEAD (SST)

### ***Brood Year 2008***

At the end of January, there were 1,805,272 SST on station in Systems I, II and III. Mortality for January remained low for the third month in row. Reuse and the boilers were turned on in System I (January 15<sup>th</sup>) to increase water temperature and fish growth to help ensure the fish meet the target size of 200 mm. Systems II and III were run on single pass river water as fish growth has been slightly higher than projected during the Fall. Due to the high mortality throughout the summer and fall as a result of *Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus* (IHNV) and Cold Water Disease, the 2.1 million target release number for SST will not be met in the spring of 2009. Mortality for the month was 1.1%. Water temperature averaged 41.7°F. On January 12 and 21, formalin treatments were administered to System I to control parasites both before and after going on reuse.

From January 12-16, the Idaho Fishery Resources Office (IFRO) PIT tagged approximately 29,000 SST as part of the hatchery evaluation and comparative survival study.

From January 12-16, the Columbia River Fishery Program Office (CRFPO) PIT tagged 1500 SST as part of the Smolt Monitoring Program

## RAINBOW TROUT (RBT)

### ***Brood Year 2008 done***

By the end of the month there were 13,300 BY08 RBT in System III averaging 3.3 (fpp) and 231 mm (9.1 inches) total length. Mortality for the month was 3.2 percent. Water temperature averaged 41.7°F and water flow was 500 gpm/BP.

On January 29, RBT in BP 60 were inventoried and split into a mixed cell unit (formerly BP64). These month-end numbers are adjusted for this inventory. Katie Teaters from the University of Idaho (UI) will compare the fish from the two different rearing units over the next few months as part of her Senior Project at the UI.

These RBT will be for Open House 2009.

### SUMMARY

Table 8. Total Production—Fish on Station (01/31/09).

SP	BY	Location	Number	Wt (lbs)	FPP	L in	L mm
SCS	07	A Bank RWs	1,025,418	41,006	25.0	5.1	130
COS	07	C-Bank RWs	283,941	14,226	20.0	5.2	133
SST	08	System I	704,315	75,977	9.3	6.8	172
SST	08	System II	627,923	81,191	7.7	7.2	182
SST	08	System III	473,034	83,162	5.7	7.9	202
RBT	08	BPs 60, 62 & MCU	13,300	4,006	3.3	9.1	231
<b>Total</b>			<b>3,127,931</b>	<b>299,568</b>			

MCU = Mixed cell unit, Burrows pond 64 before renovation.

#### *Kooskia*

##### *Kooskia Trap Operations Brood Year (BY) 2009*

The trap was remained closed through January.

##### *Kooskia Brood Year 2008*

All Kooskia Stock BY 2008 alevin are currently being incubated at KNFH on chilled well water. Take 1 was tanked January 30.

Summary of Kooskia Stock BY08 SCS move out.

Take	Date Tanked	Number Tanked	Total Egg/Fry Mortality	% survival Eyed egg to tank fry
1	1/30/2008	51,595	3,279	94.02%
2				
3				
4				
<b>Total</b>		<b>51,595</b>	<b>3,279</b>	<b>94.02%</b>

##### *Dworshak Brood Year 2008*

All Dworshak Stock BY 2008 alevin are currently being incubated at KNFH on chilled well water. Take 1 was tanked January 30.

Summary of Dworshak Stock BY08 SCS move out.

Take	Date Tanked	Number Tanked	Total Egg/Fry Mortality	% survival Eyed egg to tank fry
1	1/30/2008	109,000	1,000	99.09%
2				
3				
4				
5				
<b>Total</b>		<b>109,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>99.09%</b>

***Kooskia Brood Year 2007***

Kooskia Stock BY 2007 SCS number 442,532 averaging 33.2 fish per pound (fpp) at 4.65 inches long. Growth for the month was negligible due to cold water. Sample counts were taken to determine fish size.

***Dworshak Brood Year 2007***

Dworshak Stock BY 2007 SCS number 161,801 averaging 28.2 fpp at 4.91 inches long. Growth for the month was negligible due to cold water. Sample counts were taken to determine fish size.

On January 26 and 28, PIT tagging was conducted on BP's 1-3 (Kooskia Stock BY07). Approximately 10,000 fish were tagged. Creek water temperature averaged 32.7°F during December. A Idaho Fish Health Center (IFHC) exam conducted January 22<sup>nd</sup> showed overall good fish health without the presence of *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (ICH). No formalin treatments were administered this month. Negative growth was due to cold temperatures and pond icing. Sample counts were taken after ice out to determine actual fish size.

**Maintenance**

***Dworshak***

- Electrical projects: Troubleshoot and repaired temp controller on Mech II, boiler #3; troubleshoot and reset auto transfer switch System I pump house; troubleshoot and repaired Main Bldg. heating system; set new emergency generator in place.
- Fabrication projects: Roof rack for shovels for top of Gator; modified walkway grip strut and installed on mix cell pond wall; braze copper pipe for fire maintenance pump and removed old lifting handles and replaced with T handles on plates for Production Dpt.
- Set up tanks in Mech I for pit tagging
- Removed aeration tower from Lab water quality room.
- Removed a bypass pipe and installed a blind flange in System I reuse filtration system.

- Met with elevator inspection person for bi-annual inspection and assisted Opportunity Unlimited client, Steve, around the hatchery complex to refill first aid kits.
- Load fish transfer tank onto garden truck.
- Set up tank and plumbed warm water for FRO.
- Assisted FRO in their pit tagging operation by operating forklift and scanning steelhead for tags.
- Replaced body and installed rebuild kit on snow plow lift.
- Snow removal from hatchery grounds and spreading ice melt.
- On a daily basis cleaned and vacuumed all buildings, offices, took out trash and stored recycled materials, checked trash rake, ran traveling water screens and checked main pumps daily

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***Kooskia***

- Cleaned flow switch and changed internal oil filter on “A” circuit chiller compressor on Jan. 5.
- Installed new battery in Gator.

**Meetings/Training/Travel**

***Dworshak***

- 1/5-9 Krista Hostetler, Maintenance Worker, traveled to NCTC at Shepherdstown, WVA for New Employee Orientation training.
- 1/8 Hatchery Evaluation Team (HET) met with members of the Nez Perce Tribe and University of Idaho team members. Employees attending: Ray Jones, Fisheries Biologist; Larry Peltz, Complex Manager; Thomas Trock, Fisheries Biologist; Mark Drobish, Hatchery Manager; Hubert Sims, Maintenance Supervisor; Kathy Clemens, Idaho Fish Health Project Leader; Mike Bisbee, Fisheries Biologist; Adam Izbicki, Supervisory Fisheries Biologist at KNFH, Carrie Bretz, Fisheries Biologist, and Susan Sawyer, I/E Manager.
- 1/13 Don Redman, U.S. Corps of Engineers (USACE), Walla Walla District toured the hatchery to become more familiar with the water system and the issues related to fish culture and discharge relative to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Don and the Hatchery staff compiled the response letter in a collaborative effort for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the “Notice of Violation” for the hatchery’s compliance issues.
- 1/14-15 Larry Peltz attended the two-day Nez Perce Tribe symposium held at the Best Western Hotel in Orofino.
- 1/21 Larry Peltz traveled to Walla Walla, WA to meet with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

***Kooskia***

- 1/6 Adam Izbicki, Asst. Hatchery Manager, attended the supervisors meeting at DNFH.
- 1/6 Adam Izbicki attended an Hatchery Environmental Team (HET) meeting at DNFH.

1/13 Nate Weise (Asst. Manager at Hagerman NFH) visited KNFH and worked in the Kooskia Station Security Assessment. Al Jensen (Manager at Leavenworth NFH, arrived on 1/15 to work on same

### **Miscellaneous**

1/21 January birthdays were celebrated by staff in the Conference Room with Production staff supplying cake & ice cream. I/E Specialist Wandag was presented a congratulatory card and gift for the birth of her new baby son, who attended the gathering.

### **Personnel Actions –**

1/5 I/E Specialist Megan Wandag gave birth Jan. 5 to a 7lb. 10oz. baby boy - Jahzen Stiv - in Lewiston ID. Megan will be on leave until April.

### **Safety/Wellness –**

1/13 Mike Gladhart, Clearwater County Sheriff's Dpt., gave a presentation to staff on: "*Coldwater Immersion.*"

1/28 Lab technicians from Clearwater Valley Hospital & Clinics were on-site for U.S. Fish & Wildlife and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff to have their blood drawn for a complete blood count, thyroid/prostate at discounted prices as part of a Wellness Forum sponsored by the hospital and Foundation.

### **Information/Education (I/E)**

#### ***Dworshak***

Tours – many casual visitors viewing spawning were invited by staff to visit the incubation room to watch the procedures, but no formal guided tours given.

Visitor Register - 38

Visitor Contacts – 27

Volunteers – 2 for spawning                      Hours – 10

Website contacts – (data not available)

#### **On-site:**

- Assisted with coordination of annual Blood Drive on hatchery grounds, which went very well.
- Conducted final closeout sale of Dworshak Spawn Shop as per agreement with Friend of Northwest Hatcheries (FNH) in Leavenworth. Sales netted over \$1,800 in 6 weeks. Remaining inventory, deposit and all FNH property was inventoried and returned to them. The FNH remains an active partner for hatchery outreach and education programs, only the gift shop was closed for administrative reasons.
- I/E Manager Sawyer participated in several monthly team/committee meetings via conference call: North Central Idaho Travel Assoc., FNH, Regio 1 Connecting People with Nature.
- Finalized feature article for FWS Fisheries publication 'Eddies', about NPT member and Kooskia fish culturist Art Broncheau. Several phone and personal meetings were held for background, research and writing. Issue will come out in April with a Native voices theme.
- Attended hatchery HET meeting to request staff assistance for school egg requests and off-site programs while I/E Spec. Wandag is on leave this spring, to coordinate school tour schedules with spawning.
- Drafted letters for returning volunteers for 2009 season; 14 out of 17 replied, with 13 able to help on various projects this year. News release drafted to recruit new volunteers – 2 for tours, 2 for spawning help. Orientation scheduled for 2/17 when spring spawning begins.
- Requested contract extension for brochure project, approved for 90 days to April.
- Rewrote text for brochure, provided markups to contractor for final draft

**Off-site:**

- Participated on review panel for USFS/Nez Perce National Historic Trail cost-share grant proposals; read, rated and ranked 13 proposals for interpretive projects in a 3-state region

***Kooskia***

No visitors signed the guest book. No guided tours, but many visitors stopping to check the trap, see the big fish, and take a look around the hatchery grounds, when it wasn't snowed in or ponds frozen.

Website contacts: (data not available)

**Outreach projects:**

- Worked with fish culture technician Art Broncheau to write a feature article for FWS publication 'Eddies', spring issue due out in April.
- Contacted Kooskia, Kamiah and Cottonwood schools for setup of Hatchery in the Classroom projects, schedule tours and egg deliveries.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Peltz". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Larry Peltz

Complex Manager

cc: Kooskia NFH  
Hagerman NFH  
CFRU – Moscow  
Dworshak Production (2)  
LSRCP – Boise