



# Dworshak Fisheries Complex

## Monthly Activity Report



March 2013

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 1

Volume 2, Issue 5

### Special points of interest:

- Total Fish/Eggs on station at Dworshak: 8,096,080
- Total Fish/Eggs on station at Kooskia: 704,373
- Read Dworshak's Blog, [The Fish Ladder](#).
- There are 386,857 BY12 Coho salmon in incubation at Dworshak.

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### Manager's Message....

The upcoming release of 2.1 million Dworshak B-run steelhead concludes a highly successful rearing season at Dworshak NFH. While the on-station rearing phase ends a new phase begins that will hopefully culminate in a successful adult return in future years. Water flow, fish passage conditions, predation, and the estuarine food supply among other things now control the destiny of the "Dworshak B's". Regardless, the rearing success achieved to date leads to an optimistic forecast for returning fish in the future.

I have previously shared my thoughts about how the fish you produce are an integral part of the Nez

Perce Tribal culture, and how Dworshak steelhead provide sport harvest opportunity that in turn fuels the economy for the State of Idaho, the community of Orofino, as well as providing an economic boost downriver in the Snake and Columbia River Basins. Now I'd like to give you another perspective of how your success impacts others downriver.

The hatchery produced Dworshak B-run steelhead are included with wild/natural origin fish for protection under the Endangered Species Act. As a result, all returning B-run steelhead are managed as a constraint to other downriver fisheries. Harvest managers carefully fore-



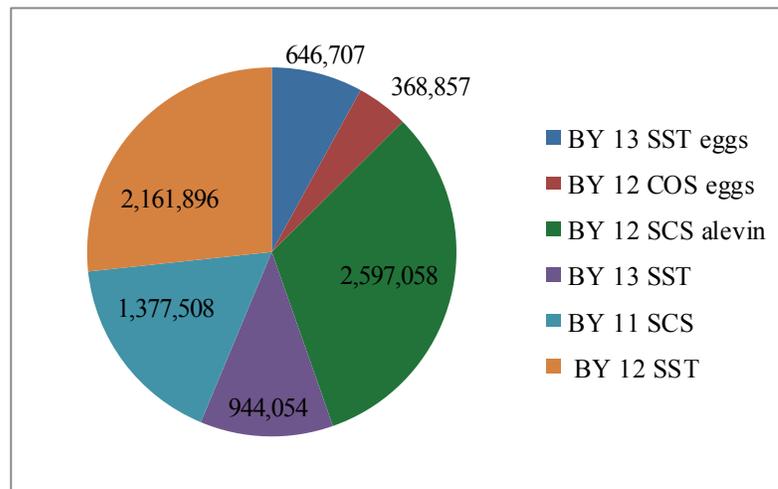
Acting Complex Manager Speros Doulos

cast the B-run steelhead return to manage other tribal and sport fisheries to assure that ESA harvest impacts are not surpassed, and to avoid over-harvest that could jeopardize the future recovery of these listed fishes. Lean B-run return years lead to minimal fisheries whereas strong returns of the Dworshak B's allow everyone to share in the wealth. The wealth is not only defined as having a share

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### Production Summary: Dworshak National Fish Hatchery

Figure 1. Total Production—Fish on Station (2/28/13).



Chinook sac fry.

Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS

SCS=Spring Chinook; CW SCS=Clearwater Hatchery Spring Chinook; SST= Steelhead; COS=Coho





**Pumping Clearwater SCS for transport.**

**Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS**

**“BY 13 steelhead from takes 1 and 2 are on feed in the nursery.”**



**Clearwater SCS just released into the Selway River.**

**Credit: Nate Wiese/USFWS**

## **Hatchery Headlines: Dworshak Spring Chinook Salmon (SCS)**

### ***Brood Year 2011 (BY11)***

At the end of the month there were 1,377,508 BY 11 SCS on station averaging 23 fish per pound (fpp) and 134 mm (5.3 inches) total length. There were 1,231 (0.09%) SCS mortalities in the raceways (RWs) during the month. All B bank raceways with the exception of RW 29 are on serial reuse and average flow is 1107 GPM. Water temperature averaged 41.0 °F in the RWs. The FRO is taking condition data on the high and low density groups in RWs 18-20 and 28-30. Chinook were direct released into the N. Fork Clearwater River on April 1 & 2.

### ***Brood Year 2012 (BY12)***

Total alevin in trays was 2,597,058. No morts were removed in March. All Dworshak SCS alevin are being incubated on chilled water at about 34°F. Development of alevin is on track for ponding in April.

## **Hatchery Headlines: Clearwater Hatchery SCS**

### ***Brood Year 2011 (BY11)***

Clearwater SCS were released during the month of March. A total of 2,506,636 SCS averaging 20 fpp and 133 mm (5.2 inches) were trucked to five different release sites. The Clearwater Fish Hatchery managed and executed all release operations. There were 519 mortalities in March (0.02%). Water temperature averaged 42°F and flow was 900 gpm.

## **Hatchery Headlines: Dworshak Summer Steelhead (SST)**

### ***Brood Year 2012 (BY12)***

At the end of the month there were 2,161,896 BY 12 SST in the BPs averaging 6 fpp and 197 mm (7.7 inches) total length. There were 1649 (0.07%) mortalities this month. Systems I, II, & III are on river water; average water temperature was 42 °F and average flow was 860 gpm. There were no fish health concerns during the month.

### ***Brood Year 2013 (BY13)***

Dworshak spawned BY 2013 production steelhead every week in March. During the month 453 females were spawned from takes 5-8. Females from takes 5 and 6 were air-spawned with 106 females going to the NPT kelt reconditioning project. Eggs went into Clearwater Hatchery localized brood-stock production. 183 females from take 8 were spawned for Magic Valley Hatchery. Incubation temperature averaged 52°F for the month. Carcasses from fish anesthetized with carbon dioxide were donated to a local food bank. Thirty-eight carcasses were held for I & E. Spawning of BY13 SST will be completed in April.

Takes 3 and 4 were shocked and enumerated in March. A total of 973,161 eyed eggs were enumerated from both takes. Average fecundity was 6024 and percent survival to eye was 70%. Eggs from take 3 were put into hatching jars in the Nursery. Take 4 was put back into incubation trays and will be ponded as swim-up fry in April. Takes 1 and 2 were ponded in the nursery as swim-up fry and went on feed March 30.

## **Hatchery Headlines: Dworshak Coho Salmon (COS)**

### ***Brood Year 2011 (BY11)***

There were 386,857 Coho eggs in 5 stacks. Coho eggs being incubated at Dworshak were hand-picked by Coho personnel. The full Coho report can be seen on page 4.

## Hatchery Headlines: Kooskia

### *Kooskia NFH Monthly Activity Report*

This activity report is implemented by the Tribal Fish Hatchery manager, Kent Hills. All information in this report was collected and or performed by the hatchery staff during the preceding month.

Under SRBA and the Clearwater Annual Operating Plan, the Tribe, Service, and Idaho Fish & Game have agreed to implement other fish production actions related to KNFH mitigation. Reports will include additional information about other species reared, processed and released in relation to KNFH operations.



**Kooskia NFH is owned by the USFWS and managed by Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries.**

**Credit:USFWS**

### *Kooskia Adult Trap Operations Brood Year 2012*

The trap was opened March 18th to trap steelhead. Hatchery staff removed 122 adult steelhead from the trap on the 27th of March and released them in the South Fork of the Clearwater River at Luke's Gulch acclimation site.

### *Kooskia Chinook Brood Year 2011*

Smolts were in the burrows ponds this month. 341,740 (22 fish per pound) Chinook from burrows ponds 2, 3 & 4 were released into Clear Creek on the 15th of March to make room for Chinook from Clearwater Hatchery for acclimation to Clear Creek. The remaining three ponds 343,069 (20 fish per pound) were released into Clear Creek on March 29 making the total release 684,809. The end of the month smolts are 20.6 fish to the pound and 5.500 inches (139.7 mm) long. Total feed consumed this month was 2912 lbs. Burrows ponds are on creek water, the average temperature was 40 degrees F.

### *Kooskia Chinook Brood Year 2012*

There are 704,373 sac fry on station, we have had a higher mortality due to curly and deformed sac fry, and the water temperature was 38 degrees F. until mid-month when the temperature was raised to 45 then again to 47 to help the sac fry button up for moving into the rearing tanks. Take 1 was moved on the 15th of March, take three was moved on the 28th of March.



**BY 12 Chinook swim up fry**

**Credit: Kent Hills, NPT**

### *Coho acclimation at Kooskia*

The Nez Perce Tribe Coho Program transported 317,874 Coho Salmon from DNFH to the KNFH for final acclimation and release into Clear Creek. Coho were transported by trucks and personnel from NPTH. Their assistance was greatly appreciated. Coho were put into raceways 1-8. On March 6th, we received 167,451 Coho Salmon from Eagle Creek Hatchery for acclimation to Clear Creek. They were put into raceways 9-12. On March 7th, in the evening a fish transport from the ECFH arrived and released 75,322 Coho into Clear Creek at the bridge using the release tube. Coho smolts from raceways 4 through 7 were released into Clear Creek on March 26th. The remaining Coho raceways will be released the first part of April.

### *Clearwater Chinook Brood Year 2011*

Spring Chinook were transported by the Idaho Fish and Game for acclimation at the KNFH. In the past these fish were reared at CFH and directly planted into Clear Creek at the bridge. As returning adults, we saw a lot of these fish at DNFH in the trap. This technique showed a substantial amount of straying. It was decided this year to acclimate the CFH smolts at KNFH. These smolts, approximately 341,000 from DNFH, arrived at the hatchery on March 19th and were put into burrows ponds 2, 3 & 4. On March 29th, 340,600 Spring Chinook from the Clearwater Hatchery were released into Clear Creek. Total mortality while at Kooskia was 400fish.



**Adult steelhead being released to the SF of the Clearwater River.**

## Hatchery Headlines: Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries, Coho

### *Performance for February 2013, BY 11 Coho*

The inventory of Brood year 2011 Coho on April 1st showed 483,442 Clearwater-stock are being reared in twelve raceways at Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (KNFH) (316,554 Nez Perce Tribe, 166,888 Eagle Creek). 3/26/13, RW's 5-8 released due to higher instances of eroded noses and sickness.

### ***EAGLE CREEK:***

On 3/4/13 and 3/5/13, 273,339 BY11 Clearwater-stock Coho were trucked from Eagle Creek NFH and direct released into Lapwai Creek. 3/6/13, 167,451 BY11 Clearwater- stock Coho were trucked from Eagle Creek NFH and put into four raceways at Kooskia NFH for final acclimation. 3/7/13, 75,322 BY11 Clearwater-stock Coho were trucked from Eagle Creek NFH and direct released into Clear Creek.

### ***MORTALITY:***

The average percent mortality for Clearwater stock Coho during March was 0.39%.

Total monthly mortality was 1883 collected by staff

### ***GROWTH:***

Fish per pound (fpp) decreased from an average of 17.22 fpp to 16.87 fpp.

Length increased from an average of 5.50 inches 5.53 inches.

### ***FEED:***

Coho juveniles were fed Bio-Pro 2.0mm at 1.2% of their body weight.

A total of 1364 pounds of Bio-Pro, and a total of 484 pounds of BIO-Clarks 1.2 was fed for the month for a total of 2,270 pounds for the month of March. The total cost of feed for the month of February was \$2,943.60.

### ***FISH HEALTH:***

N/A

### ***PERSONNEL:***

William Coomer was stationed at KNFH to take care of daily duties for acclimated Coho.

### ***REPORTS:***

CRITCF progress reports for FY09-FY13.

CRITCF Science Review Team

Local Education final report



**NPTF staff pump  
Coho smolts to  
Clear Creek.**

**Credit: Kent Hills/  
NPT**

***“Coho smolts  
were released  
in March.”***



**Smolts being released  
into Clear Creek.**

**Credit: Kent Hills/NPT**

**MEETINGS/TRAINING:**

Mike Bisbee, Tui Moliga, and William Coomer attended the Coaching the Experienced Driver 4+2 Course.

**INCUBATION:**

As of April 1st, 386,857 BY12 Coho are being incubated in five stacks at Dworshak (A1-5).

All BY12 Coho eggs were hand picked by Coho staff.

**Total Fish on Station: Dworshak, 2/28/2013**

SP	BY	Location	Number	Wt (lbs)	FPP	L in	L mm
SST	13	eggs/alevin-incubation	646,707		eggs	eggs	eggs
COS	12	eggs/alevin-incubation	368,857		sac fry	sac fry	sac fry
SCS	12	eggs/alevin-incubation	2,597,058	1,237	sac fry	sac fry	sac fry
SST	13	Nursery	944,054	524	1800	1.2	30
SCS	11	RWs 1-30	1,377,508	60,999	23	5.3	134
SST	12	System I	964,939	135,818	7	7.4	187
SST	12	System II	996,045	145,892	7	7.5	190
SST	12	System III	200,912	44,586	5	8.6	218
SST	12	SST on feed Tot/Avg	2,161,896	326,296	6	7.7	197
<b>Total Fish/Fry on Station EOM</b>			<b>8,096,080</b>	<b>389,056</b>			

**Idaho Fisheries Resources Office**

With the Project Leader position for the Idaho FRO still unfilled, Mike Faler has assumed the responsibilities for that position, including spending time at the RO dealing with budgets and other topics related to the ongoing sequester.

The FRO brought on John Hook to fill our vacant fish biologist position. John will be helping collect and process data for the hatchery M&E program.

Steelhead spawning peaked during March. So far we have trapped and sorted through 2,913 steelhead to cover broodstock needs for Dworshak, Clearwater, and Magic Valley hatcheries and to supply spawned females for the NPT kelt study. We are also assisting the NPT collecting data for steelhead trapped at Kooskia Hatchery.

The HET group finalized the study plan to evaluate the effectiveness of increasing rearing density to increase returns of Chinook salmon from Dworshak. This study will begin with BY 2014 fish. Work continues to finalize study plans to evaluate production of Chinook salmon in Burrows ponds and the effects of increased flow in the raceways.

Billy Connor attended the USGS Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Unit's annual Cooperators meeting at the University of Idaho, 21 March.

Final size measurements of spring Chinook salmon were made prior to their release, 1, 2 April. These fish averaged 23 fpp. These data will be used as part of an initial evaluation of rearing Chinook salmon at higher densities in the raceways.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Idaho Fisheries Resources Office



**Air-Spawn Crew. Collaboration at its finest!**

**Credit: CRITFC**

“Have you  
‘liked’ the  
[Dworshak  
Fisheries  
Complex  
Facebook  
page yet?](#)”



**Jeremy Sommer, NPT,  
with a Thank You poster  
from Orofino Head Start.**

**Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS**

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Peery - Participating in Regional Climate Board meeting developing strategies for the FWS to deal with challenges with climate change in the Region.

Ken and Frank seine trawls surveying for juvenile fall Chinook salmon in the Snake River. The project is to assess natural fall Chinook salmon production and survival in the basin.

Carrie Bretz has been participating in a workgroup to develop a new hatchery evaluation database (FINS). Meetings have primarily been held in Boise. This effort is funded by the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan and once active, this database will be used at all LSRCP hatcheries.

## Information and Education Corner

### *Dworshak*

Stats: Tours-14, 528 people; Register- 305 visitors from 12 states; Volunteers- 13 Hours-199; Website visitors- 409; Blog Visitors- 1539 from 10 countries!

### **On Site:**

- [The Fish Ladder: Notes from Dworshak Fisheries Complex](#) had record readership this month with recognition from both the regional and national fisheries offices. The theme for March was collaboration. The NPT kelt program was highlighted and so was Clearwater Hatchery's Chinook release. As always, your contributions and comments are always welcome!
- The Dworshak Fisheries Complex [Facebook](#) page is getting a lot of views, shares, and has over 90 likes. We are trying to make daily posts about activities, nature sightings, and general goings-on at Dworshak and the Clearwater River area. Take a minute to look at the page: Dworshak Fisheries Complex, and  like us!
- Angela Feldmann met with Tod Sween and Elmer Crow for a Kids' Fishing Day planning meeting. Kids' Fishing Day will be on May 18 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at Tunnel Pond in Orofino, ID. Children 14 and under will be able to fish for free. Fishing gear, bait, and ice are provided, and there will also be fun activities and crafts.
- Volunteers were contacted for spawning and tours.
- Shot photos and video of air-spawning
- Continued Visitor Services lobby renovations
- Updated Dworshak web page

### **Off-site:**

Jeremy Sommer gave four Hatchery in the Classroom presentations, delivering eggs to each class.

Angela Feldmann gave two Hatchery in the Classroom presentations.

### *Kooskia*

Hatchery Personnel are trying to keep a number count of visitors on the grounds. We had approximately 185 visitors for the month by the manual count. Visitor numbers are up due to warmer weather and returning steelhead.

## Idaho Fish Health Center

### Complex Hatcheries

**Kooskia:** Guppy visited Kooskia on 3/29 for monitoring exam of SCS fry. No pathogens were seen at this life stage.

**Dworshak:** Thirty BY11 juvenile SCS from each of the two density treatment groups in B series raceways were collected for the pre-release fish health inspection for the pilot study. Rick continued to monitor the mortality of juvenile spring Chinook in raceways A11, A14 and their serial reuse raceway B26, B29. The mortality continued to be a low level and chronic.

Rick continues to work with the Hatchery Evaluation Team on developing options to monitor fish health during the spring Chinook salmon density trials.

Fish health samples were taken during Dworshak steelhead spawning days for the month of March including 100% individual sampling for eggs destined for Magic Valley State Hatchery and samples taken for IHNv epidemiological studies.

Dworshak STT prerelease exam was performed on 3/7 by Laura, Liz, and Rick.

**Nez Perce Tribe:** Coho salmon were released from the Kooskia hatchery this month.

NPTH experienced an increased mortality event in the nursery. Laura found *Costia* in moderate levels and tanks were treated.

NPTH SCS prerelease exam was performed on 3/19.

Prerelease exam was performed on 3/27/13 for the NPT Fall Chinook Acclimation Program for the Captain John Acclimation Site.

**Bacteriology:** Non-reportable bacteria detected in pre-release exams so far. One case of CWD in STT fry to be out planted was confirmed by PCR.

**Virology:** Corie ran a total of 405 samples representing 843 fish from Dworshak NFH, Nez Perce Tribe fall Chinook acclimation program (FCAP), Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery, Nez Perce Tribe Coho program, Kooskia NFH, Hagerman NFH and Kootenai Tribe of Idaho. Samples also included steelhead fresh from the river for epidemiological study purposes. Corie ran 156 blind passes representing 300 fish from Dworshak NFH adult Steelhead, Kooskia NFH prereleases, Nez Perce Tribe Coho prereleases and Hagerman NFH prereleases.

**PCR:** Rick assisted Laura with PCR confirmation of ELISA positive *Renibacterium salmoninarum* (*R. sal*) wild fish samples from FY2012 using the automated bead extraction method and conventional nested PCR and real time PCR. Results were variable with further evaluation of the extraction and PCR techniques required to validate the methods. In addition, Laura and Chelsea extracted and processed 148 additional samples of *R. sal* confirmations from 2012/2013 wild fish survey samples.

Rick screened two hundred and sixty surveillance samples from adult steelhead trout, Coho salmon, fall Chinook salmon, and chum salmon collected by the Region 1, Olympia Fish Health Center for Infectious Salmon Anemia virus (ISAv) in March. All samples were negative.

Sixty steelhead trout fry Take 1 and 2 from Dworshak NFH were screened for Infectious Hemorrhagic Necrosis virus (IHNv) using draft protocols for a real time reverse transcriptase PCR developed by the USGS Western Fisheries Science Center. Excess fry from the Take 1 and 2 are scheduled to be released in late March. The PCR results were negative. Samples are also being screened for IHNv by cell culture to compare results.

Laura extracted and processed 40 samples from Hagerman National fish Hatchery for monthly monitoring of *Nucleospora salmonis*. Also, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife submitted 40 fry from 2 hatcheries to be tested by PC for *Nucleospora salmonis*. Samples from Washington were found to be negative.

**ELISA:** Guppy performed an ELISA analysis to test for *R.salmoninarum* (BKD) on 3/26-3/27 of 392 samples primarily for prerelease exams, Dworshak SCS density study, and monitoring exams.

**Wild Fish Survey:** The remaining thirteen cases, 316 fish from the FY2012 Wild Fish Health Survey collected in September 2012 in north Idaho were screened for *Myxobolus cerebralis* by pepsin-trypsin digest. All samples were negative. Laura completed all data entry for 2012 and 2011 pending case information and submitted data to ECOS for upload to public website.

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Direct release of air spawned steelhead  
Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS

**"All Kooskia Chinook were released in March."**



The beautiful Clear-water River from Hocus boat ramp  
Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS

## Maintenance & Operations

### *Dworshak*

#### March maintenance activities included:

Repaired holding Pond fish gates.  
Mechanical II Air compressor repairs.  
Repaired hydrants and hose faucets.  
Solicited Bids to replace quarters sprinklers.  
Wired recirculation pumps in Nursery.  
Repaired Ice machine.  
Installed and programmed Probe on System I VFD.  
Installed new temp controller on Mechanical I boiler.  
Installed 4" Stancor pump in Sys III bio filter.  
Repaired leaking boiler loop valve in Mechanical I.  
Repaired Valve box at Nursery head tower.  
Drivers training (NPT Employees).  
Conducted flow measurements on main pumps.  
Strip and wax granite floor in hatchery building.  
Fire Extinguisher monthly inspection.  
PM performed on pressure washers.  
Vehicle washing.  
Heathro Pump PMs.  
Various lighting repairs.  
Replaced Generator Building Thermostat.  
Replaced GFCI outlet in Mech II.

### *Kooskia*

March 1: Received 317,874 Coho Salmon from DNFH for acclimation to Clear Creek, they were put into raceways 1-8.  
March 4: Staff began pumping out the bio-filter in preparation for rearing tank operations, and Well #5 was turned on and adjusted to flow to the bio-filter.  
March 8: Bio-filter cleaning completed and water turned on to the outside rearing tanks in preparation of BY12 fry.

Solicited bids for new windows in quarters 2 & 3.  
PM performed on Pond Scrubber.  
PM performed on Cushman Carts.  
Performed misc domestic plumbing repairs.  
Fire extinguisher annual service.  
Eyewash annual service.  
Installed new pressure relief valve on chilled line in incubation.  
Installed new pressure gauges on main pumps.  
Repaired loose grating in spawning room basement.  
Repaired Trash rack guard chains.  
Power vac used oil furnace combustion chamber.  
Replaced Panalarm Control Boards  
Replaced 2500 Amp Boiler Breaker.  
Manlift PM performed.  
Painted Quarters #2 garage door.  
Repaired A bank broom racks.  
New thermostat and light switches repaired in quarters#2.  
Repaired electrical receptacles in mechanical I.  
Contractors picked up degassing towers and delivered components for construction preparation.  
Repaired leaking nursery vent pipes.  
System I digesters brought online.  
Repaired leaks in dewatering towers.

## Manager's Message....

*(Continued from page 1)*

of the B-run steelhead harvest, but also in allowing the harvest of other fishes returning to the Columbia and Snake River Basins. This is especially important during the Columbia River Fall season fisheries.

Strong fall Chinook returns equate to increased harvest opportunity for both sport and tribal fishers. The area downstream of Bonneville Dam offers sport harvest opportunity whereas Zone 6, the area between McNary and Bonneville Dams, is managed primarily for tribal fisheries. During the fall season I can look out my office window at Spring Creek NFH and see numerous tribal gill-nets set in key locations to maximize harvest of returning tule and upriver bright fall Chinook. It is not uncommon to have more than 600 tribal gillnets within the Bonneville Pool alone during a fall season fishery. This fishery is of huge importance to the Columbia River Treaty Tribes both culturally and economically although fishing can be dramatically curtailed during lean B-run return years to avoid exceeding the ESA harvest impacts for listed fishes. When this occurs everyone is affected....tribal fishers, sport anglers, and hatchery managers. Yes, hatchery managers. Un-harvested hatchery produced fish return to their place of origin often inundating staff with large quantities of surplus fish. Last year more than 23,500 tule and upriver bright fall Chinook surplus to hatchery needs were collected at Spring Creek and Little White Salmon NFHs. While these fish eventually made their way to the food bank, they are a logistical problem for hatchery managers. Most importantly, since most Columbia and Snake River hatchery programs are intended to mitigate for lost fisheries due to habitat loss, these fish couldn't contribute to meeting their respective mitigation goal i.e. fish produced for harvest.

Recent improvements in overall steelhead survival at Dworshak NFH show the success of the hatchery program. This exemplifies that success does not have to be measured by how many more fish you can rear and release. Quite the contrary, achieving your current production goals can lead to tremendous harvest opportunities for all fisheries in the future. With that in mind, let's rally around the successes you have achieved in your current production program and celebrate another successful year of steelhead production at Dworshak NFH.

## Idaho Fish Health Center

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**Other:** Laura and Chelsea gave a presentation on the National Wild Fish Health Survey to Dworshak Complex staff on 3/4.

Laura participated in 2 conference calls involving Western Chemical and Dupont about the possibility of keeping the disinfectant Virkon Aquatic as one of their products for purchase. It appears that Virkon Aquatic is not selling as fast as they would like, so Dupont is considering terminating the production of this product. If this happens, Western Chemical will then start to carry Virkon S.

Rick participated in fire extinguisher use training. A summary of monthly case testing was prepared for March 2013 for Andy Goodwin.

Rick and Guppy participated in Dworshak SCS HET meeting on 3/7. Guppy worked with Doug Munson (IDFG) to write a contingency plan for Dworshak SCS density study.

Guppy participated on monthly national fish health center call hosted by Joel Bader in HQ on 3/4. All Idaho FHC staff participated on two Region 1 conference calls hosted by Andy Goodwin on 3/4 and 3/18. All staff attended Region 1 webcast on 3/6. Guppy participated on Region 1 project leader conference call on 3/18.

Laura and Guppy participated on a national fish health center committee call regarding testing for Bacterial Kidney Disease on 3/18.

Guppy submitted suggested edits to the Title 50 part 16.13 as requested, to Joel Bader, FWS National Aquatic Animal Health Coordinator.

Guppy attended the LSRCP Production Meeting on 3/12 and 3/13 and participated on two separate panels regarding fish health considerations of "Adult trapping, holding, and spawning" and the "Evaluation of additional fish rearing opportunities".

Corie, Laura, and Guppy gave a tour to a fish health class of the University of Idaho on 3/19.

Guppy attended a meeting at Dworshak on 3/28 regarding Coded Wire Tag recovery from returning adults, release of adults after air spawning, and other issues.

Corie and Guppy attended a meeting on 3/26 for a demonstration of a new phone system for the Dworshak Complex.

Mid-year performance appraisals for all staff were completed.



**FWS Volunteer, Jerry Berger talks to an excited group of 4th graders**

**Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS**



**FWS Volunteer, Joe Davis answers questions about spawning.**

**Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS**



**Students from Whitman Elementary viewing steelhead spawning.**

**Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS**

## Meetings....Training....Travel

### *Dworshak*

Tom Osborne, Bonneville Power Administration visited the hatchery to collect electrical use data as a follow up to a couple of energy efficiency projects. The projects included the replacement of two of the vertical turbine 250 horse-power (HP) pumps with the 200 HP high efficiency propeller style pumps in the main pump house and a 150 HP pump in the System I pump house replacing two 125 HP pumps. These pumps are providing greater energy savings than predicted and save over \$12,000 in electricity each month.

Jack Christiansen, Guppy Blair, Kent Hills attended the Lower Snake River Compensation Program's Annual Production Meeting in Boise on March 12-13. Mark presented on "What's New at Dworshak Fish Hatchery" and Jack's presentation "Summarizing facility rearing parameters, water quality, and use; where might we find additional fish rearing opportunities to increase LSRCP production"?

Jack Christiansen, Guppy Blair, Kent Hills and Mark Drobish accepted the "Station of the Year" award presented by Chris Starr on behalf of the LSRCP. Dworshak was recognized this year for providing a home for 2.5 million spring Chinook from the Clearwater Fish Hatchery after the Primary reservoir pipeline fell to the bottom of Dworshak Reservoir on August 15, 2012. These fish were transferred in late August from Clearwater to Dworshak.

The "Station of the Year" award was presented to all on staff on site on March 18th. A staff photo followed the presentation.

The Idaho Fish and Game staff began hauling the spring Chinook on March 18th. All fish were successfully transported off-site by the end of the month.

Scott Feldmann hosted the hands-on fire extinguisher training for the staff on March 21st.

Mark Bright retired on March 23, 2013. Mark and his wife, Patsy will re-locate to Missouri and live closer to family. We wish them the best in their new endeavors and dreams.

Bill Proctor, Chief of the Reservoir Control Center, Portland Division, USACE and Steve Hall, Water Management Program Manager, Walla Walla District, USACE toured the facility on March 21st. Area of focus was on the water supplies, gas saturation issues and hatchery operations.

### *Kooskia*

March 01: Kent had a meeting with Chris Reign from Fish and Wildlife on possible acclimation sites on Clear Creek for smolts.

March 11: Kent Hills attended a Lower Snake Comp budget meeting in Boise.

March 13: All staff attended drivers training at Orofino field office.

March 18: Gerry & Art completed IT security training.

March 19: Kenny completed IT security training.

## Administrative Activities

### Safety

The Dworshak Hatchery Safety Committee met on March 21; the next meeting is scheduled for April 24 at 1:00 PM

### Personnel Actions

Bright: Separated-Retired 3/23

Greene: Application for Retirement on 3/7, Effective date 5/4

Cordes: Extension of Term Appt, effective 3/26

Bugler: Extension of Term Appt, effective 3/19

Bugler: Career Ladder Promotion, effective 3/24 Other

Still waiting on the recruiting waiver approval process due to sequestration (Positions affected: Complex Mgr Vice-Peltz, Animal Caretaker Vice-Wright, FRO BioAid Vice-n/a)

DNFH Animal Caretaker Vice-Wright position to be flown on approval as Temporary position NTE 6 months due to Fisheries Supervisor recommendation

## Staff Service Anniversaries and Birthdays

### February Birthdays

Liz Steiner  
Mark Bright  
Jody Brostrom  
John Hook  
Chris Peery

### Years of Service

Rob Bohn– 5 years  
Mike Faler– 30 years  
Liz Steiner– 27 years



*(Continued from page 8)*

March 15: Fish in burrows ponds 2, 3 & 4 were released to make room for 341,000 Chinook smolts from Clearwater hatchery for acclimation to Clear Creek. 44,958 BY12 fry (take 1) were moved to outside rearing tanks.

March 19: Spring Chinook from Clearwater Hatchery arrived and were put into burrows ponds 2, 3 & 4 for acclimation to Clear Creek waters prior to release.

March 19: Alarms for the bio-filer were turned on.

March 26: Coho smolts in raceways 4-7 were released into Clear Creek.

March 27: 122 adult steelhead were removed from the trap and out-planted in the South Fork of the Clearwater River.

March 28: Take 3, 253,054 BY12 Chinook fry were moved to outside rearing tanks.

March 29: Released all remaining Kooskia BY11 Chinook (343,069) into Clear Creek. Also released were the 340,600 Chinook Clearwater Hatchery smolts that were at Kooskia for acclimation. 145,770 eyed steelhead eggs were released into Clear Creek at the second bridge, approximately 4 miles above the hatchery.

March 29: 340,600 Spring Chinook Clearwater Hatchery fish were released into Clear Creek; total mortality while at Kooskia was 400.

## Staff List

### Complex Management

Speros Doulos, Acting Complex Manager  
Mark Drobish, Hatchery Manager  
Kent Hills, Acting Nez Perce Tribe Co-Manager  
Nate Wiese, Assistant Hatchery Manager  
Jack Christiansen, Aquatic Engineer

### Dworshak Production Staff

Mark Bright, Angela Feldmann, Jill Olson,  
Rick Allain, Rob Bohn, Wayne Hamilton,  
Tom Tighe

### Nez Perce Tribe Production Program

Mike Bisbee, Tuianna Moliga, Lou Ann  
Lasswell, Steve Coomer, Jeremy Sommer,  
Ira Wilson, Carter Lopez

### Administration

Penny Hasenoehrl, Steve Bradbury

### Maintenance

Adam Izbicki, Ben Greene, Terry Weeks,  
Rick King, Rob Kellar, James Oatman, Ja-  
mie Henderson, Scott Koehler, Melissa  
Billups

### Idaho Fish Health Center

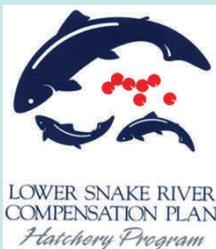
Dr. Marilyn Blair, Liz Steiner, Laura Sprague,  
Corie Samson, Rick Cordes

### Idaho Fishery Resource Office

Mike Faler, Dr. William Conner, Ray  
Jones, Aaron Garcia, Carrie Bretz, Frank  
Mullins, Dr. Chris Peery, Jody Brostrom,  
Randy Bowen, Ken Bugler, John Hook

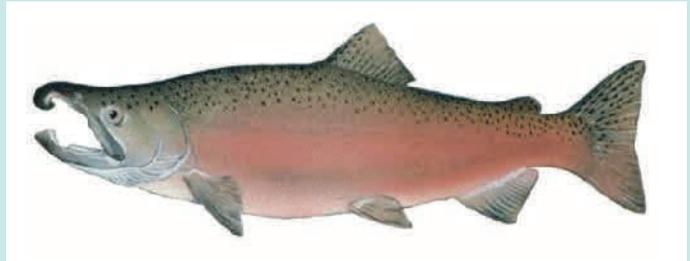
### Kooskia National Fish Hatchery

Kent Hills, Art Broncheau, Kenny Simpson,  
Gerry Fogelman



Nez Perce Tribe and Dworshak NFH Production, Maintenance, and Administrative staff.

*Credit: Mark Drobish/USFWS*



### Parting Shot



Nate Wiese presents Mark Bright with a Certificate of Service Award. We wish Mark all the best in his retirement!

*Credit: Angela Feldmann/USFWS*