



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Hagerman National Fish Hatchery
3059 D National Fish Hatchery Road
Hagerman, Idaho 83332

MEMORANDUM

May 5, 2014

TO: ARD-Fisheries
Attn: Rich Johnson, Field Supervisor

FROM: Craig Eaton, Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: APRIL 2014 Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Distribution Summary Steelhead Brood Year 2013

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
140	Sawtooth	1,381,958	299,815	4.61	8.5
141	East Fork Hatchery	59,209	13,715	4.32	8.7
		TOTAL	1,441,167	4.60	8.6

All Steelhead hauling has been completed. 5 Raceways from the bottom deck were hauled on March 6th after *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (Ich) was detected in late February. The remaining distribution started on April 3rd and 4th to McNabb Point (118,874 fish) and ended on April 29th for the Sawtooth Weir release group (1,263,084) and on April 30th for the East Fork release group (59,209). No issues were encountered during distribution. Preparations are starting for BY-14 egg deliveries which should start mid-May.

Rainbow Trout Brood Year 2013

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
142	Hayspur	118,396	2816	42.04	3.7

The Rainbow trout continue to do well since being moved to the outside raceways. The fall fingerling release will take place in mid- June.

OPERATIONS

-Project Leader Eaton attended the monthly Project Leader conference call. Topics discussed included: 1) Congressional Relations; 2) Hiring and filling vacancies, waivers, and PD Express; 3) Budget Status, appropriated funds; 4) Fleet Vehicles, looking at GSA managed fleet; 5) Conference Participation Policy; 6) Annual Regional Project Leader Meeting site Vancouver, WA; 7) Outreach- web site progress; 8) FIS updates.

-Mary Lindenberg, Regional Hydrologist from the USFWS Water Resources, visited the hatchery to locate and become familiar all 17 of our permitted springs and water structures. Having our ducks in a row when it comes to Hagerman NFH's water rights is a priority for us.

-The bunkhouse was completed this month. We now have a place temporary workers can live while working at the hatchery. It is a small two bedroom building with shared kitchen, bathroom, dining/living room, and laundry room. Part of our problem, in recruiting temporary help, was the fact that affordable housing in this area was not available. Now it is available on station for a reasonable monthly rent.

-Chris Starr from LSRCP dropped by on his way to Magic Valley Hatchery to see the progress on the Reuse Aquaculture System (RAS) being constructed.

-The RAS system is progressing right along. All three tanks are completed and plumbed in. Currently the contractor (Five Rivers) is placing forms for the concrete footings and floor while waiting on rebar for the concrete. The holdup was the building contractor submittals which came in late so now Five Rivers is trying to make-up the lost time.



PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

-The search for a Temporary Animal Caretaker continues! The job announcement closed at the end of February with hopes of the position being filled in March to assure adequate staff when distribution began in April. Unfortunately, many delays have been experienced including three selected individuals no longer being interested in the position or having other employment for the summer. We are still actively trying to fill the position as of the end of this month. We've had to rely on volunteer assistance from the local area to assist with loading trucks and which has been hit or miss.

COORDINATION

- Project Leader Eaton traveled to Shoshone to attend the 2014 fire season Cooperator Meeting.
- Biologist, Dain Bates with an assistant from Idaho Power Company, sampled the main spring/display stream for Bliss Rapids Snail, (*Taylorconcha serpticola*). The annual sampling is to confirm the presence of this federally protected, threatened species.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS

-Anna Ray, Fisheries Program Assistant, was invited to present at the Boy Scouts of America, Snake River Council Roundtable meeting. This monthly meeting gathers Leaders from across Southern Idaho. April's meeting was preparing Leaders for the summer month's planning and our presentation was an open invitation for Scouts to make use of the vast opportunities to achieve ranks at our location. The speech was well received and may result in the Cub Scouts utilizing our facility for a Day Camp in June.

- Project Leader Eaton was invited to present at the Twin Falls Blue Lakes Rotary meeting in April. His presentation covered what is available to the public at the hatchery and some of the new technology (degas system, pressurized oxygen tower, and the RAS) and how it is helping with our declining Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer.

-Our volunteers, the Miller's from Pennsylvania, arrival was in time to assist with our heavy school tour schedule and with loading trucks for fish releases. This is their second year for volunteering with our hatchery. With our struggle to hire a temporary we are constantly short-handed for these activities as well as our daily spring workload.



-Distribution volunteers included Richard Kendall and Hagerman community Seniors.

-In addition to our off-site outreach presentations, tour groups included College of Southern Idaho students enrolled in Biology 101, Hagerman Cub Scouts for their fishing Belt Loop requirements, the Middleton High School Geology, and a private Wendell elementary school.

Volunteer Hours: 12 Volunteers = 200.5 hours (116.5 for Millers)
Hatchery Contacts/Visitors: < 16yrs = 117 >16yrs = 238

MAINTENANCE

- Installed new sprinkler lines at Bunkhouse
- Raked in compost and planted grass seed at Bunkhouse
- Installed gravel ramp at Bunkhouse and compacted
- Repaired sprinklers damaged by truck delivering Bunkhouse
- Repaired Grasshopper mower

- Repaired 2 aerator switches on 905 transport
- Adjusted all 5 lilly pad handles on 908 transport
- Inspection for Aquaculture Pilot System
- Moved Brailsford ditch water to irrigators
- Changed water to WMA and Oster lakes to gravity flow

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