



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

### MEMORANDUM

October 26, 2004

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman National Fish Hatchery

SUBJECT: "September" Activity Report

### PRODUCTION

#### Steelhead Brood Year 2004

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
105	Pahsimeroi	198,687	6,631	30	4.480
106	Sawtooth	893,107	23,503	38	4.143
107	Clearwater B	205,830	4,691	44	3.949

The Brood year 2004 summer steelhead continue to perform well. No necropsies were conducted by the hatchery staff due to excellent fish health. Mortality averaged less than 2 fish per raceway per day for the entire month. The hatchery crew completed splitting the Pahsimeroi and Sawtooth stock from the middle deck to the bottom deck. The Pahsimeroi fish are destined for the Little Salmon River and the Sawtooth fish are destined for Yankee Fork Salmon River. Both groups, totaling 340,000 fish, will remain unmarked. Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) completed adipose clipping and coded-wire tagging of 87,302 Sawtooth summer steelhead on September 29, 2004. The Clearwater stock and remaining Sawtooth stock will be adipose clipped in October.

#### Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
104	Hayspur Triploid Rainbows	0	0		

All of Rainbow trout lot 104 was stocked this month, concluding the trout program for 2004. Stocking sites included the Snake River at Bell Rapids, Salmon Falls, Lower Deep Creek, and Arrow Rock Reservoirs. A total of 45,883 nine inch fish weighing 13,775 lbs. were stocked. The Triploid Rainbows lot 104 performed extremely well with a 98.27 % survival from fish on feed to stocking. The egg request for 2005 has been submitted to the IDFG; egg deliveries are expected in late December and early January.

## **OPERATIONS**

The decline in flow from springs emanating from the Snake River Plain Aquifer continues to draw attention in southern Idaho. Spring flow to Hagerman National Fish Hatchery (Hatchery) and the Magic Valley Fish Hatchery, a Service owned facility operated by IDFG as part of the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP), have declined over the years. Current spring flows available for diversion to these hatcheries are below the water rights issued by the state of Idaho. Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, attended several meetings locally and in Boise regarding the issue. The Idaho Department of Water Resources, State and Congressional legislators, and water users are working on a plan for a negotiated settlement. Bryan Kenworthy, Regional staff, The Solicitor's Office and LSRCP staff briefed Dan Diggs, Assistant Regional Director-Fisheries, on the issue.

Richard Johnson, Region 1 Fisheries Line Supervisor, and Dan Herrig, Project Leader-LSRCP, visited the Hatchery. Mr. Johnson presented Bryan Kenworthy with an award to recognize his work and dedication to the water issues facing the Service Fisheries program in southern Idaho. During the visit, Mr. Herrig expressed his appreciation for the Hatchery's contribution to the success of the LSRCP program. The Hatchery hosted a pizza luncheon in conjunction with these events.

Bryan Kenworthy provided a tour of the Hatchery to Ms. Carla Fromm and Ms. Sharon Wilson of the Environmental Protection Agency-Region 10. Ms. Wilson is responsible for writing the new NPDES permit for Idaho aquaculture facilities. Bryan discussed several areas that could be improved related to the Hatchery's operation under the previous permit. This included removal of efficiency requirements for the off-line settling basin and implementing a sampling and reporting scenario based on a trimester time frame rather than by quarters.

The Hatchery changed its tour-of-duty for the winter season to the hours of operation from 7:30am to 4:00pm .

A representative of Quality Asphalt, Inc. visited the Hatchery to review the contract for Seal-Coating which they were awarded through cooperation with the LSRCP office.

Bryan Kenworthy and Kurt Schilling, Assistant Project leader, participated in a conference call convened by Chris Horsch, National Conservation Training Center (NCTC), concerning the National Fisheries Training Committee activities. The Committee is assisting NCTC in developing a training program for biologists in the Fisheries Program.

## **COORDINATION**

The Hatchery hosted a Hatchery Evaluation Team (HET) meeting to discuss the upcoming evaluation of the Clearwater steelhead stock performance in Hatcher's serial re-use raceways.

Dave Hopper, Snake River Basin, Ecological Services Field Office, conducted Bliss Rapids Snail surveys in all of the Hatchery's spring water supplies and discharges. The survey included those Service owned springs diverted for use at the University of Idaho, Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station. This information will be incorporated into a management plan to protect the snails at the Hatchery and will address Section 7 requirements under the Endangered Species Act.

Christine Moffit, University of Idaho, and two of her graduate students, Chris James and Louise Bruce visited the Hatchery to collect New Zealand Mudsnail samples and discuss research project proposals directed at control of the snail.

## **PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY**

Nathan Wiese, Fishery Biologist, traveled to the NCTC to attend the TEC 7154, Internet Home Page Development for Fish and Wildlife Information. The course is designed to develop basic web page design skills. Nate is responsible for updates and maintenance of the Hatchery's website.

Nathan Wiese and Mark Olson, Fishery Biologist, completed Forklift Operator certification instructed by Pat Hickey, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

## **OUTREACH**

Nathan Wiese worked with personnel from the National Park Service (NPS) Hagerman National Fossil Beds Monument and Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve to staff a booth at the Twin Falls County Fair. The booth included educational brochures and information from the NPS and the Service. A total of 8,499 visitor contacts were made during the 6 day event and ideas were generated for future appearances at the Twin Falls Fair.

Mark Olson presented the Buhl, Idaho Kiwanis International a PowerPoint talk on steelhead distribution and Hatchery operations.

The Hatchery provided a tour to 14 Rose Hill fourth graders who were studying Idaho History.

Friends of Northwest Hatcheries conducted their monthly meeting. Bryan Kenworthy participated via telephone conferencing.

A total of 304 people signed the guest registry this month.

## **MAINTENANCE**

### Vehicles and Equipment

- Latham motors, Twin Falls, Idaho replaced a turn signal switch, wiring harness to rear lights, axle seals, and emergency brake cables on the Dodge flatbed truck.
- Installed new diesel generators that run the aeration and alarm systems on the fish transport tanker #480.
- Replaced worn tire on #480 fish transport tanker.

### Buildings and Grounds

- Pumped septic tanks for Quarters 4, Quarters 5, and the Administration Building.
- Initiated water sampling protocol on Hatchery's domestic water system to determine prevalence of copper.
- Holley Construction completed work on fencing around head end of ditch and yard fencing at Quarters # 7.
- Snake River Glass continues work to replace widows in Quarters #7 and the Maintenance Office.
- Received the final delivery of generators for fish transport life support systems.
- The Hatchery received a modification of Wickham Pipeline Construction contracts to change funding and add water service building and electrical work to the contract.
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues to provide personnel to reduce fire fuel load on the Hatchery.
- The Hatchery received modification of Thomas/Wright contract to fund additional bird enclosure design on Steelhead raceways.
- Hayes Construction completed installation of rain gutters and downspouts on the new Hatchery building.

