



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

March 29, 2005

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: February Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2004

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
105	Pahsimeroi	198,365	38,443	5.16	8.06
106	Sawtooth	861,288	131,281	6.56	7.44
107	Clearwater B	201,271	32,871	6.12	7.61

Steelhead growth is tracking with previous years data and the smolts are expected to be released at the programmed target size. Mortalities rose slightly in the Clearwater stock. The Idaho Fish Health Center diagnosed the cause to be due to the prevalence of Nucleospora (NS) in the fish. The remaining stocks appear to be unaffected by NS and mortalities remain low.

Bradon Buddars, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), PIT tagged 1,500 fish and conducted coded wire tag (CWT) retention checks. To date, only one fish with a PIT tag has died and the CWT retentions were excellent. Thanks to the tagging staff for a great job.

Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
108	Hayspur T-9 Rainbows	97,345	442	220	2.25
109	Hayspur T-9 Rainbows	32,865	35	939	1.38

Rainbow trout Lots 108 and 109 have been doing well in the hatchery. Mortalities are low and the fish are feeding well. Lot 108 will be ponded in the trout raceways in early March. Three of the rainbow trout raceways are set up for these fish and the unused raceways have been sealed to minimize water leakage and increase water use efficiency.

OPERATIONS

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, was briefed by Bryce Cantor, Hydrologist, Idaho Water Resources Research Institute, University of Idaho, regarding the concept of developing groundwater banking projects in the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer. The Bureau of Reclamation is funding the project. Along with a number of water users, Bryan represents the Hatchery as part of the “stakeholders group” reviewing the project.

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, traveled to the Regional Office in Portland, OR to brief Rich Johnson, Fisheries; Joe Krakker, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan; Mike Eberle, Engineering; and Barbara Scott Brier, Office of the Regional Solicitor, on the status of water issues facing the Hatchery and water users on the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer. The water supply to the hatchery continues its slow but steady decline.

Bids were published and received for the 2005 fish haul contract. Bids were also published and received for semi-tractor lease for a three-year renewable contract for the fish distribution season.

Nate Wiese, Fishery Biologist, participated in a comment exercise for revisions to the FIS (Fisheries Information Systems) program.

James Brandon, Animal Caretaker, and Nate Wiese collected 1000 New Zealand Mudsnails and shipped them to Louise Bruce at the University of Idaho lab for ozone toxicity tests.

Bryan Kenworthy and Steve Money, Maintenance Mechanic, continued to work with Randy Schmeller and the contract A&E firm to scope out replacement of the Brailsford Intake over flow pipe.

COORDINATION

The Hagerman National Fish Hatchery hosted the Annual Hagerman Steelhead Coordination Meeting between USFWS, IDFG, Idaho Power, and the Shoshone/Bannock Tribe. Following the coordination meeting a second meeting was conducted to discuss fish marking at the southern Idaho steelhead facilities. Areas of concern were condition of marking trailers, availability of marking employees and safety of existing equipment. Minute notes from both discussions were sent to participants.

Ray Jones & Kathy Clemens were here to perform fish health inspections, attend the Annual Coordination meeting, and participate in the periodic HET meeting.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

Steve Money, Maintenance Mechanic, attended Pesticide Applicators training in Twin Falls and received an applicators license.

Christina Satterwhite, College of Southern Idaho, Intern Student, began working with the Hagerman National Fish Hatchery under the Cooperative Agreement the Hatchery has with the school's Fisheries Technology Program and the Idaho Aquaculture Association.

Mark Olson, Fishery Biologist, attended the Fisheries Academy course, a two week course held at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC).

Nate Wiese, Fishery Biologist, attended a Fish Ecology course at NCTC taught by Dr. Kyle Hartman from West Virginia University.

All hatchery personnel successfully completed the on-line Department of Interior, IT Security Training.

OUTREACH

On February 1 Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, and Dr. Ron Hardy, Director of the Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station, University of Idaho (University), signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Hatchery staff to participate in the University's "Native American Fisheries Resources Education Enhancement Program". The University faculty initiated the program to increase the representation of Native American scientists in fisheries resource management, conservation, and aquaculture by improving Native American undergraduate degree attainment in fisheries resource management, conservation, or aquaculture. Hatchery staff participated in two training sessions during the 2004 summer season.

One organized tour was given to 20 students from the Bliss, ID elementary school.

92 guests signed the register at the visitor center.

Volunteer Hatchery Host Applications closed February 28, 2005. To date no commitments have been made for hatchery hosts.

MAINTENANCE

Vehicles and Equipment

- Tested and repaired life support and alarm systems on #480 and #319 fish transport trailers.
- The tension idler pulleys, and the EGR valve were replaced on the F-150, repair was completed by Middlekauff Ford of Twin Falls.
- The new fish pump was test run for eight hours.

Buildings and Grounds

- Replaced motor, circuit board, chain, gears and idler wheels on security gate.
- Water analysis for Copper study completed on Hatchery's domestic water system.
- The Annual Safety Inspections was completed on all quarters.
- Dryer vents were cleaned at time of safety inspections.
- Replaced broken 12" valve at trout raceways water line drain located at old trout raceways.
- Quarterly bacteria sample done on domestic water system.
- Bids were solicited from three vendors for Solid Waste Collection FY2005.
- Bids for a three-year renewable contract for Janitorial Services were solicited.
- The local telephone service account for the Hagerman NFH was transferred to GSA.
- Repairs and painting were completed on interior quarters #6.
- Terry's Heating & AC performed a service call for visitor's center heat pump
- Eight Generators from fish transport trailers were surplus.
- Materials were received for phase 2 and 3 of the station's automated fish feed delivery system.