



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

AUGUST 8, 2005

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: "July 2005" Activity Report



←Betty Lake 10.K feet Copper Basin, Idaho

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2004

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
105	Pahsimeroi	199,201	1,065	187	2.436
106	Sawtooth	1,058,407	3,114	340	1.997
107	Clearwater B	205,005	1,496	137	2.7

Fish health remains good with no necropsies performed this month. All Clearwater and Pahsimeroi fish have been moved outside. Sawtooth fish remained inside throughout the month and will be moved outside during August. As fish are moved outside they are switched from a soft moist diet to an extruded 1.0mm diet.

Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
108	Hayspur T-9 Rainbows	3,960	851	4.65	7.7
109	Hayspur T-9 Rainbows	27,627	5,941	4.65	7.7

Lot 108 and 109 continue to suffer moderate daily mortality; presumably, still from Nucleospora infections. Growth projections from July suggest that inventory estimates may be slightly low

and we may have closer to 35,000 rainbows on hand. We are anticipating stocking 30,000 - 35,000 catchable rainbows in September at 9 inches.

OPERATIONS

Construction



← *Len Lewis Spring Flume*

Construction of a new water bypass and ramped flume on Len Lewis spring was completed. Addition of the flume replaces the need to use the current meter and should be more accurate measuring flow to the Hatchery from Len Lewis Spring. Construction also started on the emergency replacement of the overflow pipe that diverts water from the Brailsford Intake to the Main Spring pool.



← *Brailsford Intake Overflow Pipe*

Not So Old Faithful →



How many engineers does it take to design a pipeline replacement? Apparently the same number it takes to make it fail. One week prior to the pipeline failure four engineers (and three Hatchery staff) were standing at the same spot discussing its future replacement. The line was repaired the following day by Wickham Pipeline, Inc. under an emergency contract. Constructed in 1964, the 24-inch diameter, 800 foot long pipeline serves the Trout Raceways, Hatchery #1, the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area and the Oster Lakes fishing ponds. The plan to replace the pipeline has been accelerated. Chris Starr, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan; Susan Burch, Environmental Contaminants Specialist, Snake River Fish and Wildlife Office (SRFWO); and Allyson Turner, Biologist, SRFWO, visited the Hatchery to conduct an Intra-Service Consultation for the pipeline replacement to meet the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. In addition, Carla Burnside, Archeologist, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, visited the Hatchery to conduct Cultural Resources consultation for the project.

A pre-bid meeting was hosted at the Hatchery by Randy Schmeller, Region1 Engineering, for contractors interested in bidding on the demolition of Old Hatchery #1. Mark Olson, Assistant Project Leader, and Steve Money, Maintenance Mechanic, represented the Hatchery during the meeting.

Old Hatchery #1 Scheduled for Demolition →



Aquatic Nuisance Species



←*Dissected Gastrointestinal Tract*

Louise Bruce, University of Idaho Graduate Student, conducted research examining the passage and survival of New Zealand mud Snails in the gastrointestinal tract of rainbow trout. Live snails were found in all regions of the gastrointestinal tract and also in the fish fecal material of fish force-fed snails. Her continued research will investigate the effect of fish (rainbow vs. steelhead), fish size, snail size, snail quantity, fish feeding regime, and water temperature on snail passage and survival. The results will provide potential depuration strategies to reduce the risk of transferring snails during stocking.



←*Newborn Snails*

Dr. Christine Moffitt, U of I; Paul Heimowitz, Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1-Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinator; and Steve Lysne, Biologist, SRFWO visited with Louise Bruce to discuss her investigations on the New Zealand Mud Snail and her Fish and Wildlife Service, Student Career Employment Program assignment at the Hatchery.

Fire Prevention



←*Meri Crusher[®] in Action*

Brian Clifford, Motor Vehicle Operator, traveled to the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge to borrow the Meri Crusher[®]. Essentially a rotor-tiller on steroids, the machine is pulled behind a farm tractor which was rented from a nearby dealership. The machine is being used to clear several areas of the Hatchery's fire line. In addition, the fire crew from the South East Idaho NWR Complex spent a week at the Hatchery providing Wildland Urban Interface work to reduce fuels at the facility. Work included tree removal, tree trimming, chipping, and stacking of brush for later burning.

COORDINATION

Dan Forney, Region 1- Environmental Compliance Officer, Portland, collected paint for lead content analysis from the shop, oil house, storage garage, and wood barn.

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, and Mark Olson attended the University of Idaho (U of I), pre-Construction meeting for demolition of the old office building and construction of new office and lab. The Hatchery issued a Special Use Permit for heavy trucks to pass through the main Hatchery entrance road.

Gina Equisquiza, Computer Specialist –SRFWO, traveled to the Hatchery spending two days providing technical support for the Hatchery's network and computer work stations.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

Nathan Wiese, Fishery Biologist, successfully completed the one year probation and was promoted to a GS09. Louise Bruce, SCEP student was promoted to the GS07 grade.

On the evening of July 12, the Hatchery hosted a potluck in the picnic area for the conservation hatcheries located in the Magic Valley.

OUTREACH

Two scheduled tours were conducted this month, Potato Growers of America, a group of 80 people from across the nation and to the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, eight member YCC crew.

463 people signed the guest registry.

MAINTENANCE

Vehicles and Equipment

- Transported the backhoe to a vendor in Twin Falls for brake repair.
- A commercial vendor modified the semi-tractor adding airline and electrical connections to the rear of the frame to accommodate the flat bed trailer.
- A commercial vendor performed warranty work on the semi-tractor air conditioner.
- A new Stihl® weed trimmer was purchased.

Buildings and Grounds

- The bird netting curtains at the end of the upper and middle deck raceways were replaced.
- Tanks were plumbed into Hatchery #2 New Zealand Mud Snail study.
- Prepared and poured concrete for feed bin pads for automatic fish feed delivery system.
- The old block garage was prepared and painted.