



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

September 27, 2006

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: "August" Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2004

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
115	Clearwater B	198,307	3,168	63	3.51
116	Pahsimeroi	186,190	2,116	88	3.13
117	Sawtooth	1,065,939	13,275	80	3.23

The Idaho Fish and Game fish marking crew marked the steelhead this month using the automated trailers to ad clip and insert coded wire tags. The automated trailers performed well and the crew was finished in about two weeks. At marking time the steelhead were split to final rearing raceways. Fish size is on target with past years at this time.



Automated fish Marking System



Transferring fish to the marking trailer

Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
114	Hayspur T-9/KT Rainbows	40,018	32,699	2.8	9.1

The rainbow trout continue to do well in the trout raceways. Mortalities were 0.2 % during August. Lot 114 grew slightly more during August than anticipated, so the feed ration will be reduced during September. The trout distribution is still scheduled for the end of September.

OPERATIONS

Anna Ray, Fisheries Program Assistant, participated in the Year-End Conference call with Region 1 Budget & Finance.

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, briefed Senator Mike Crapo on the Hatchery's declining water supply and its potential impact on the Hatchery's steelhead mitigation program during a meeting jointly hosted by the Idaho Aquaculture Association, The Thousand Springs Water Users Association, and the Idaho Aquaculture Commission.

Hatchery employees staffed an information booth at the Twin Falls County Fair in cooperation with the Hagerman Fossil Beds Monument, National Parks Service. The booth was located with other informational displays hosted by the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and Idaho Department of Fish And Game.

The Hatchery hosted a Hatchery Evaluation Team (Team) meeting. Attendees included Ray Jones, Idaho Fisheries Resource Office; Kathy Clemens, Idaho Fish Health Center; Chris Harrington, Idaho Fish and Game; and, via phone conference, Chris Starr, Evaluations Biologist, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP). The Team discussed the Production Capacity Assessment (PCA) study, the Clearwater Stock Evaluation Report, and the Beta Glucan study. Because of the Hatchery's declining water supply (≈ 0.1 cfs per month decline) the team decided the PCA study should be continued for 2007. The discussion also focused on how a comparative coded-wire tag study should be developed to monitor and evaluate smolt survival as the Hatchery's water supply continues to decline. The team will develop and submit such a proposal to the LSRCP for consideration.

Carla Fromm, Environmental Protection Agency, contacted the Hatchery with verbal results on the sediment samples she had taken for PCB contamination below the settling ponds. The samples tested below the method detection limit for PCB's. The caulking sample she obtained from the steelhead raceways had not yet been tested. Caulk samples obtained from the old trout raceways by the Hatchery staff were found to be below the detection limit for PCB's.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

Kevin Kincaid, College of Southern Idaho Intern finished his last week of full time employment at the Hatchery. He will work weekends this fall as his school schedule allows.

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader; Mark Olson, Asst. Project Leader; and Nathan Wiese, Fish Biologist, traveled to the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan office, Boise, to attend a Fisheries Information System (FIS) workshop presented by Rich Johnson, Fisheries Supervisor, and Phil Herzig, FIS Coordinator.

OUTREACH

Bryan Kenworthy provided a tour to approximately 20 members of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The participants represented various federal, state, and local resource entities such as the US Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service, the National Resource Conservation Service, County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The presentation focused on the declining spring flows in the Thousand Springs Reach and the potential affect on the Hatchery's steelhead mitigation program.

A total of 504 guests signed the guest book for a total of 524 Hatchery guests.

MAINTENANCE

Vehicles and Equipment

- Backhoe was serviced.
- F-250 was taken to Ford dealer to address a recall on the cruise control and to Fast Glass in Twin Falls for a new windshield.
- Welded a release pin on tilt-bed trailer.
- Replaced the batteries in the International tractor.
- West End Diesel completed brake jobs on the three fish transports.
- A new lawn mower was purchased



New Grasshopper mower



Construction Continues at the Hatchery

Buildings and Grounds

- New water chiller building construction continued.
- Reis Plumbing installed new hydrants and hose bibs in Quarters 4 and 5.

- Replaced faulty lighting ballasts in Administration building.
- Filled pressure tanks at domestic well.
- Rebuilt the Febco water control valve in Quarters 6.
- Trenched from power pole to new chiller building, installed conduit for 480 volt feed and installed a new electric meter base.
- Adjusted cablevey feed system to level feed drops.
- Rebuilt all toilet flush valves in Administration building and visitor center.
- Assisted Idaho Department of Fish & Game personnel to resolve electrical problems in clipping/marking trailers.
- Replaced the cat 5 plugs on computers in the East end of administration building to eliminate damaged wires and ran conduit through wall to prevent future damage.
- Inspected Sedimentation Pond and Chiller Building construction projects.
- Windows in Quarters 6 were replaced.