



# 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 12, 2007

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman National Fish Hatchery

SUBJECT: August Activity Report

### PRODUCTION

#### Steelhead Brood Year 2007

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
120	Sawtooth	1,032,710	14,599	71	3.37
121	Pahsimeroi	200,005	3,836	52	3.73
122	Clearwater B	211,052	3,326	64	3.49

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) started marking steelhead on August 6<sup>th</sup> and finished on August 11<sup>th</sup>. The Hatchery adjusted crew work schedules to allow for two shifts per day (6:00am until 11:00pm) during the six days to meet IDFG's requirement to complete the Hatchery's marking within a one week time frame.

As in past brood years, in an effort to provide a degree of fish health protection, the Hatchery fed vitamin boosted feed before and after Marking.

#### Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
118	Hayspur KT Rainbows	0	0	0	0
119	Hayspur KT Rainbows	40,551	8,278	4.9	7.57

Lot 119 rainbows continue to experience elevated daily mortalities at a rate of 0.1% per day. This mortality rate, however, is below the rate observed when the fish were experiencing an

infestation of external parasites. The Hatchery coordinated with IDFG to determine the fall trout release site which will be Cascade Reservoir. It was agreed to delay the release of Lot 119 until October to provide time for the fish to meet target size at release. These fish were behind in growth due to a high prevalence external parasites and subsequent formalin treatments during early rearing. Moreover, the October timeframe should allow reservoir temperatures in southern Idaho to cool off. During 2007, Idaho experienced its hottest summer on record.

## OPERATIONS

The Hatchery successfully completed fish marking during August. Krista Hostetler, Dworshak NFH complex, was assigned to the Hatchery on a temporary detail to help with the additional work shifts during the marking process. Kevin Kincaid, College of Southern Idaho, student intern, was also an invaluable asset during the marking.



Although the Mass Automated Trailer System (MATS) marking went very well again this year, the Hatchery had a couple of issues to deal with. First, the Hatchery had difficulty meeting the optimal MATS marking size of 100 fish per pound (fpp). Steelhead size ranged from 92-205 fpp at marking. The size problem occurred because the Hatchery had to “squeeze” four weeks of egg takes into one week of marking. Second, MATS marking double shifts were labor intensive. The Hatchery crew was split into two shifts (6:00 am – 2:30 pm and 12:00 pm to 8:30 pm, or until finished – usually around 10 pm) in order to continually supply steelhead to the MATS trailers. Employees scheduled on the second shift received a 7.5% night shift differential pay. Additionally, approximately 100 man hours of overtime/comp time were accumulated by the crew during the six days of marking.



Krista and Kevin got in some fishing after the morning clipping shifts.

Chris Starr, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, conducted the annual walk-through condition assessment of the Hatchery.

Christine Moffitt, University of Idaho, visited the Hatchery to wrap-up the New Zealand Mud Snail hydrocyclone studies being conducted by her graduate student, Jordan Nielson.

In an effort to provide better data in order to meet reporting requirements for energy use and compliance to Executive Order 13101, *Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention* and the *DOI Strategic Plan*, Steve Money, Maintenance Mechanic, assisted Gietzen Electric with installation of 200 amp sub-meters in Hatchery #2 and the Administration Building.

## COORDINATION

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, and Nathan Wiese, Assistant Project Leader, attended the Ecological Services and Fisheries coordination meeting in Boise. The meeting included representatives from the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, the Snake River Fish and Wildlife Office (FWO), Eastern Idaho Field Office, Upper Columbia FWO, Dworshak NFH complex, Idaho Fishery Resource office, and Regional Office staff representing Fisheries and Ecological Services. The participants reviewed ongoing cooperative efforts and discussed opportunities for further collaboration. Discussions included the Fish and Wildlife Service's role on the Agency Advisory Committee for the management plan being developed for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer and matters related to the Hatchery's operations conducted to protect the Bliss Rapids snails inhabiting several of the Hatchery's springs.



Bryan Kenworthy conducted a comprehensive tour of the Hatchery for the Columbia River Basin, Hatchery Review Team (Team). The Team was on site as part of their review of the Snake River Federal Hatchery programs. For more information on the review process check out their website at:

<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/fisheries/hatcheryreview/index.html>



Later in the day the Hatchery crew hosted a barbeque, fish fry, and potluck for the Team. No one went home hungry.

Bryan Kenworthy and Carmela Mares, Region 1 Division of Realty, met with neighboring land owners, Lee and Mary Mitchell, to present an offer for the Fish and Wildlife Service to purchase their property. The offer is based on an appraisal conducted by the Department of Interior earlier this year. The Mitchells requested 30 days to consider the offer.



Rob Sharpnack, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and two biologists from the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), were on site to collect sediment samples for PCB contamination in Riley Creek downstream of the Hatchery. Hatchery staff directed the biologists to a narrow slough which is tributary to Riley Creek and below the Trout Raceways discharge point. This site was recommended because the old Hatchery #1 (now demolished), was known to have been painted with

paint containing PCB's; its effluent had discharged into the slough for many years prior to construction of the off-line settling ponds. Earlier sampling of Riley Creek several hundred yards downstream of this location and directly below the off-line settling ponds detected no PCB presence in those sediments. The EPA had put a requirement in the draft NPDES permit for Idaho Aquaculture facilities to have the permittees conduct PCB sampling and report findings on the discharge Monitoring Reports. It is our understanding that this requirement will not be included in the permit. The EPA is collecting the data apart from the NPDES process. It is uncertain what remediation will be required if PCB's are found in the sediment below the Hatchery.

Bryan Kenworthy provided Ren Lohofener, Regional Director, and Jeff Foss, Project Leader Snake River Basin Fish and Wildlife Office, Ecological Services, a tour of the Hatchery. Ren also had a chance to meet and speak with several members of the hatchery staff.

## **PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY**

Steve Money, Maintenance Mechanic, attended fork lift certification training at the Centennial Training Center in Nampa in coordination with employees from the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge.

Bryan Kenworthy, Nathan Wiese, and Anna Ray, Fisheries Program Assistant, interviewed applicants for the vacant GS-0482 05/07 Fish Biologist position.

## **OUTREACH**

The Hatchery conducted two scheduled tours for 14 visitors.

The Hatchery had 361 registered visitors and 24 guests, for a total of 399 visitors during July.

## **MAINTENANCE**

- Built jump screens for marking trailers.
- Repaired hoses for marking trailers.
- Welded aluminum standpipe and screen for STT raceways.
- Repaired dishwasher and closet doors in Q-7.
- Cleaned and adjusted water softener in Q-7.
- Replaced furnace filter in Q-7.
- Installed wheels on off-line settling pond dewatering pump.
- Welded SS axles and installed guide wheels on pond scrubber.
- Installed new starter rope assembly on Landa pressure washer.
- Excavated 2-inch water hydrants at Q-6 and RV pads.
- Repaired Grasshopper lawn mower deck.
- Cleaned shops.
- Mounted vise on each workbench in welding shop.
- Installed storage cabinet in welding shop.
- Lawn soil samples delivered to Stukenholtz laboratory in Twin Falls