



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

### MEMORANDUM

January 11, 2010

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: December Activity Report

### PRODUCTION

#### Steelhead Brood Year 2009

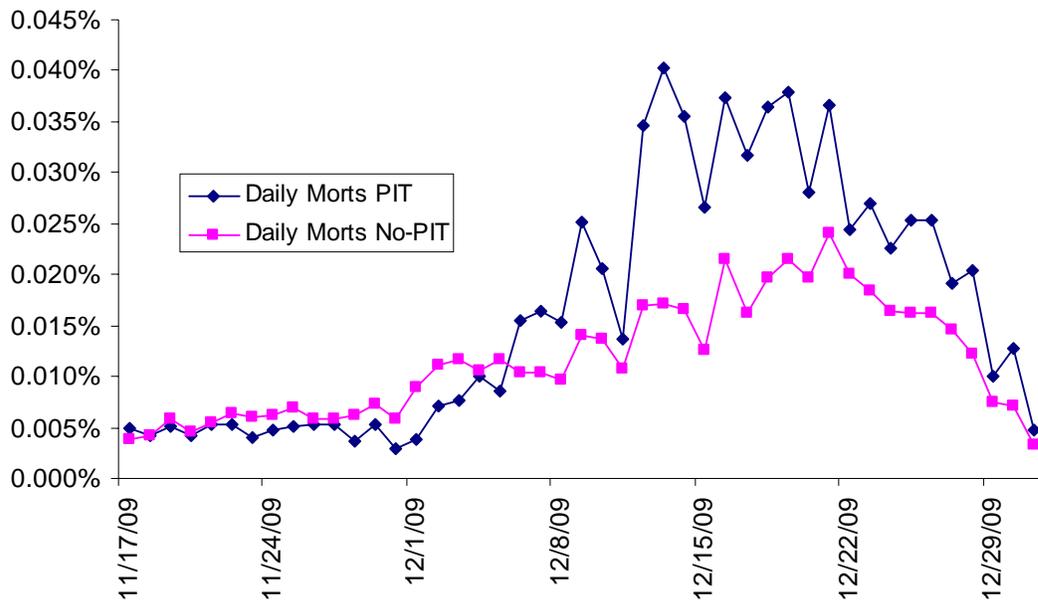
| Lot Number | Stock     | Number    | Total Weight | Size (#/lb) | Length (inches) |
|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 128        | Sawtooth  | 1,353,762 | 94,710       | 14.3        | 5.74            |
| 129        | East Fork | 125,239   | 8,266        | 15.2        | 5.63            |

Kathy Clemens, Idaho Fish Health Center, completed monthly fish health checks on December 22, 2009.

The Sawtooth stock steelhead are slightly smaller than the 10-year December average (14 fpp versus 11 fpp). The smaller size can be attributed to lower feeding rates during PIT tagging operations and two episodes of Furunculosis. The steelhead should catch up in January, February, and March to meet the final release criteria of 4.5 fish per pound.

Two weeks post-PIT tagging, the steelhead mortality rate increased across all raceways. PIT tagged raceways had higher mortality rates during this increase. The Hatchery sent moribund samples to the Idaho Fish Health Center on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The samples returned positive for Furunculosis and *Nucleospora salmonis*. The Hatchery treated the Furunculosis epizootic with Romet medicated feed, December 27-31<sup>st</sup>. The treatment was successful at reducing mortality to pre-epizootic levels.

**Daily Mortality at Hagerman NFH PIT tagged raceways versus  
No-PIT tag raceways, BY2009**



**OPERATIONS**

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, traveled to Vancouver, WA to attend the Hatchery Review Team (HRT) meeting.

Nathan Wiese, Asst. Project Leader, and Jeremy Trimpey, Fish Biologist, attended the Hagerman Valley Springs, Water Symposium held at the University of Idaho Extension office in Gooding, Idaho. The Symposium featured speakers from Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), the US Geological Service, and the Idaho Water Resource Research Institute. The symposium was focused on providing ideas to the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP) Implementation Committee and the IDWR board. The symposium attendees identified several ideas to present to both:

- 1) Groundwater to surface water conversions near the Sandy Ponds or Southfield Dairy
- 2) Surface water conversion to provide irrigation water in the Billingsly Creek diversion system
- 3) Recharge of aquifer via canal system by operating canals outside of the irrigation season
- 4) Potential Fluorescein dye studies near the Thousand Springs Reach

Randy Schmeller, USFWS Region 1 Engineering, visited the Hatchery to perform an ADA compliance inspection on the visitor display pond access that was constructed last year. Randy reported that the project “looks good.”

The Hatchery worked with the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office to develop design criteria for extending the Spring 13 cover. The cover will keep aquatic vegetation and debris from plugging Hatchery 2 supply lines as happened in October, 2009. The project is scheduled to be completed in the first half of 2010.

## **COORDINATION**

Nathan Wiese attended a stakeholder meeting in Hagerman regarding the potential closing of the Thousand Springs state parks. The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation has proposed closing 3 park systems across the state due to budget cuts. The Hatchery has partnered with the Thousand Springs parks and has used their event building for numerous Connecting People with Nature activities.

## **PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY**

Brian Clifford and Eric Willet, Motor Vehicle Operators, attended the Northwest Fish Culture Conference in Redding, California. During the conference, they took a field trip to Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery and took a tour of the delta smelt rearing project.

The Hatchery staff met for the annual holiday game dinner at the Peking Chinese restaurant in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Western States Fire completed annual fire extinguisher inspections.

## **OUTREACH**

The Hatchery provided several rainbow trout to the Hagerman High School science classes for a dissection project. The Hatchery had 27 registered visitors and 2 guests for a total of 62 outreach contacts in December.

Bryce Lindley volunteered 12 hours in December.

Ronna Horst and Austin Fravel, Pro-Active Advantage Program, volunteered 6 hours each in December. Austin assisted in the assembly of a Bat Habitat Box.

## **Maintenance**

- Made and attached new chain to security gate.
- Tested oxygen meter.
- Serviced forklift.
- Realigned HHR garage door.
- Added fuel conditioner to all diesel tanks.
- Plowed snow.
- Took all four fish transports to Vendor to have all abandoned stainless steel brackets cut out of holding tanks.
- Fish Transport #199: removed temperature gauges and pressure displacement gauges, rewired AC generator circuit and married to alarm circuit, ordered pressure sending unit, wired in pilot lights for alarm system and had vendor weld leak in tank #5.
- Measured Quarter 5 and Quarter 7 driveways for replacement contract.
- Obtained quarterly water sample for bacteria test for domestic water system.
- Annual Copper, Lead, Nitrate and Nitrite test of domestic water system.
- Annual Pesticide, Metals, Contaminants, Bacteria, etc for Fish Production water.