



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 20, 2009

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: February Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2008

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
124	Sawtooth	1,059,139	165,745	6.4	7.51
125	Pahsimeroi	199,961	37,363	5.4	7.96
126	Clearwater B	183,363	33,961	5.4	7.94

Kathy Clemens completed monthly fish health exams on February 19th. Several samples tested positive for Coldwater disease (*Flavobacterium psychrophilum*) and Frunculosis (*Aeromonas salmonicida*). However, the diagnosis continues to point towards *Nucleospora salmonis* (NS) as the underlying disease problem. The Hatchery plans on administering a 10-day Florfenicol treatment in early March for all steelhead stocks on station to address the Coldwater and Frunculosis. Kathy Clemens also recommended administering a fumigilin treatment under an INAD for the NS, but the 90-day withdrawal would have required holding smolts well past the release window period.

The Clearwater stock continued to suffer elevated mortalities throughout February despite a Florfenicol treatment in January. Daily mortality rates were nearly 0.25% per day. The crew scanned all Clearwater mortalities or PIT tags before disposal. The scanning of mortalities required additional crew hours on several weekends.

The Hatchery's water supply continues to spiral downward. The total water supply is down 0.9 cfs from February of 2008. Water available to the Steelhead Raceways bottomed at 59.5 cfs during the last week of February. The February Flow Index peaked at 1.11 and will exceed 1.20 during March. The Hatchery will cut production levels when estimated March water supplies

dwindle to 58 cfs as specified in the Production Capacity Assessment document by the Hatchery Evaluation Team. The Hatchery will likely stave off cuts until BY2010, but will begin discussions with the Idaho Department of Fish Game policy makers regarding where future reductions will occur.

The Production Capacity Assessment is available online at:

<http://www.fws.gov/hagerman/documents/HET/ProductionCapacityAssessmentFinalReport.pdf>

Rainbow Trout

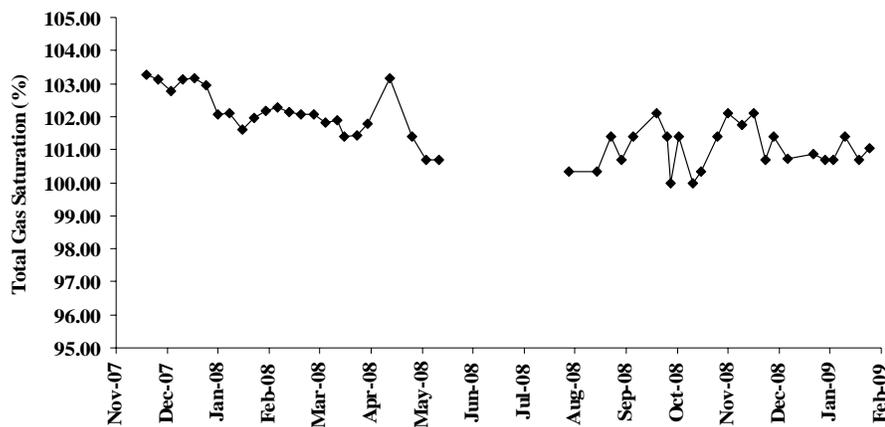
Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
127	Hayspur	134,323	436	308	1.90

The Rainbow trout were moved to the Trout Raceways on February 27th. Fish health remains excellent. Spring fingerling releases will occur in mid-May.

OPERATIONS

Tom Tighe, Assistant Manager for Magic Valley Fish Hatchery, assisted the Hatchery in measuring gas supersaturation in several springs and the Steelhead Raceways using a Common Sensing Unit® to verify the Hatchery’s saturation readings. Tom’s measurements averaged just below 103% total gas saturation in the springs and headbox. This matched the Hatchery’s readings for total gas saturation. Initial calculations using sea-level adjusted barometric pressure instead of station barometric pressure caused erroneously high readings. Additional investigations straightened out the Hatchery’s error. Total gas saturation has ranged between 100 to 103% over the past two brood years in the Headbox of the Steelhead Raceways. The Steelhead Raceways are not operated during June and July.

**Weekly Average of Percent Total Gas Satruation of SST Raceway Head
Box of Top Deck and Springs, Oct 07 - Feb 09, Hageraman NFH**



The Hatchery installed additional splashboards in the tailboxes of the upper and middle decks to increase gas exchange. The installation did not make a significant measurable difference in gas saturation. Additional research may be needed to make a conclusion.



Before splash board installation



After splash board installation

COORDINATION

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, met with Mike Casten, University of Idaho, Hagerman Fish Culture Experimental Station liaison.

Steve Money, Maintenance Mechanic, traveled to Sacramento, CA to attend a Wage Grade Committee meeting.

Anna Ray, Fisheries Program Assistant, attended Contracting and General Services training in Portland, OR.

Bryan Kenworthy traveled with the Hatchery Review Team to multiple fishery stations in Southeast Washington which are operated as part of the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

The Hatchery Crew received Hepatitis B and Tetanus shots from an Occupational health nurse from Magic Valley Regional Health. Crew members also completed annual hearing tests and respirator fit tests as applicable.

Brian Clifford, Motor Vehicle Operator, and Steve Money completed required Occupational Health physicals to meet CDL requirements.

OUTREACH

The Hatchery hosted two self-guided tours from the Walker Center for 35 tourists and had 97 registered visitors and 3 guests for a total of 135 visitors during December.

MAINTENANCE

- Finished energy conservation project. Changed 95, T-12 light fixtures to T-8 fluorescent tubes and ballasts. Installed passive infrared motion detector switches in all bathrooms to reduce energy consumption. This project should recoup \$1,836 from Idaho Power's incentive program reduce electricity consumption.
- Excavated Spring 17 pipeline to inspect previous patches.
- Exercised all Fish Transport generators. Generator on 469 failed and is being repaired.
- Replaced all padlocks with new padlocks or rekeyed padlocks to eliminate the many keys, and prevent possible tampering.
- Fish Transport 469 was opened up, insulation removed from mild steel areas, sandblasted and repainted by Giltner truck repair.
- The Flatbed was taken to a vendor for radiator service.