



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

February 10, 2010

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

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: January Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2009

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
128	Sawtooth	1,352,058	145,009	9.3	6.62
129	East Fork	125,068	13,102	9.5	6.57

Kathy Clemens, Idaho Fish Health Center, completed monthly fish health checks on January 14, 2010. Fish Health checks returned positive for Furunculosis. Mortality remains elevated in several upper deck raceways and the Hatchery will explore treatment options in early February.

Vacuum System →

The Hatchery crew tested the vacuum system for cleaning raceways. After several modifications to wheels, pumps, and handles, the crew has a somewhat usable device. As part of the vacuuming system, the crew also removed the intake splash boards to scour solid accumulation from the head-end of the raceways. The vacuum system remains relatively labor-intensive, requiring 4-times the man hours of traditional sweeping. However, the system uses a fraction of the water and produces a much more concentrated effluent when compared to the “traditional” pond sweeping method.



Nathan Wiese, Assistant Project Leader, met with representatives from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP) to discuss spring 2010 coded wire tag (cwt) recovery at Sawtooth Fish Hatchery. Most 2010 cwt steelhead recoveries will originate from BY2007 releases. BY2007 was the first brood year with

differential cwt's between the upper and lower decks of raceways as part of the Hatchery's Production Capacity Assessment. However, 2010 adult returns over Lower Granite Dam broke all previous records for steelhead returns. The Sawtooth Fish Hatchery expects record steelhead rack returns which will create a large workload burden. Meeting attendees decided that 100% sampling for cwt is still warranted despite the additional labor costs. The LSRCF will fund two additional temporaries and the Hatchery will assign several crew members TDY during spawning to assist with excess steelhead returns and cwt recovery at Sawtooth Fish Hatchery.

Rainbow Trout

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
130	Hayspur	118,526	55	2155	0.99

The Hatchery received triploid Rainbow Trout eggs from Hayspur Hatchery on January 5th. All eggs received were from 3-year old Hayspur Strain broodstock. Overall hatch success was 86.5%.

OPERATIONS



Hatchery # 2 Roof drainage problems

Marv Henry, Region 1 Engineering, took measurements and photos for the Hatchery #2 roof replacement contract. This contract will also include installation of loading dock railings and door replacement.

The Hatchery staff activated their Identification Smart Cards at the Bureau of Land Management State Office in Boise.

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, attended a meeting regarding aquatic habitat restoration of Billingsley Creek.

Mr. Mort McMillan, McMillan Engineering, and Chris Starr, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office, visited the Hatchery for the initial meeting and field measurement for the Spring 13 cover project. McMillan Engineering will also provide estimates for the Spring 17 to Main Spring pipeline and for the Brailsford Ditch control structure.

Vendors tour spring intake →



Bryan Kenworthy and Anna Ray, Fisheries Program Assistant, participated in meetings with representatives of federal, state, and local government, NGOs, and others to develop a strategy to address the potential closure of several units of the Thousand Springs Park complex

operated by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. The Hatchery works as a close partner with this State Park and the National Park Service as part of its Connecting People with Nature initiative. The governor had proposed the closing as a budget savings measure.

Jeremy Trimpey, Fish Biologist, attended the Aquatic Nuisance Species workshop led by the University of Idaho and Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Nampa, ID. The workshop focused on the threat of Quagga and Zebra Mussels introductions in Idaho.

COORDINATION

The Hatchery hosted a Hatchery Evaluation Team meeting. Attendees included: Ray Jones, Idaho Fisheries Resource Office; Chris Starr and Steve Yundt, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office; Rick Lowell, Carl Steifl, and Matt Campbell, IDFG; Kathy Clemens, Idaho Fish Health Center; and Hatchery staff. Discussions included suspension of the study to evaluate the comparison of survival of fish reared on 1st vs 3rd serial reuse water, 100K reduction in steelhead smolts for BY2010, preliminary results of single vs multi-use PIT needles, parental based tagging, prioritization of HRT recommendations, and a summary of the fluorescein dye proposal.

Anna Ray met with National Park Service and Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation outreach representatives as part of the *Connect Students with Hagerman Resources* efforts.

Bryan Kenworthy attended the Water District 36A meeting held at the Hatchery conference room.

Bryan Kenworthy attended the “Meet the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge” meeting at the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office. While in Boise, Bryan took the opportunity to meet with Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office (IFWO) staff: Gary Burton, Mark Robertson, and Bob Kibler, to discuss implications of the proposed Idaho Department of Water Resources study to evaluate Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer flow using fluorescein dye. There is no data evaluating the effect of the dye on snails which are listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Subsequent to these discussions, Dr. Christine Moffitt, University of Idaho, will conduct fluorescein dye acute toxicity studies using the Pebble snail as a surrogate species for the threatened Bliss Rapids Snail (*Taylorconcha serpenticola*).

The Hatchery donated several pairs of old waders and collected several additional pairs from commercial facilities for New Zealand Mud Snail toxicity tests at the University of Idaho. Kelly Stockton, Graduate Student, will be conducting tests to determine lethality dosages of Virkon[®] on waders made of various types of material.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

The Hatchery hired Andy Eiman as a temporary Animal Caretaker. Andy will work through the end of June.

The Hatchery crew viewed a video entitled the “River of the West: The Story of Fish, Wildlife and Power in the Columbia River Basin” sponsored by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

The Hatchery crew attended training conducted by Jeremy Trimpey regarding the Hatchery’s BMP and QA/QC plans for the annual certification for the NPDES permit.

Anna Ray traveled to the Portland Regional Office to attend Hyperion DataMart training.

Explorer Technologies conducted the semi-annual fire alarm inspection.

The Hatchery crew viewed the Morbark Beaver Brush Chipper® safety video as an annual safety review.

OUTREACH

The Hatchery had 40 registered visitors and 11 guests for a total of 51 outreach contacts in December.

Bryce Lindley volunteered 12 hours in January.

The Hatchery released 252 excess rainbow trout at the Kids Fishing Pond in Filer, Idaho. The rainbow trout were being used for fish dissection/outreach activities throughout the Fall. The trout averaged just over a pound and 13.5 inches each.



Trout Release at Filer Ponds

Maintenance

- 199 Fish Transport projects:
 - Bled injectors on high pressure side of both generators
 - Conducted load test of electrical system
 - Added oxygen lines to sending unit of low oxygen alarm system
 - Installed anti-freeze recovery tank to curbside generator
 - Installed screens and air scoop to generator compartments
 - Installed mud flaps to protect generator radiators from road debris
- Put together manlift purchase package
- Submitted bid packages to CGS for Hatchery #2 new stainless steel tank screens
- Vendor installed new circuit board in security gate under warranty
- Adjusted chain length and stop limits on security gate
- Charged keypad batteries and reset security gate
- Installed water conserving toilet in Quarters 6
- Welded new stainless steel handles for short standpipes in Hatchery #1
- Installed new light fixture and replaced faulty GFCI in Quarters 7
- Purchased removable forks and welded fork hardware to backhoe