



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

May 17, 2011

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

FROM: Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: April Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2010

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
131	Sawtooth	434,788	119,224	3.6	9.05
132	East Fork Hatchery	158,650	42,547	3.7	8.98

The Hatchery started steelhead distribution on April 13 with releases at the Sawtooth Fish Hatchery. A colder than typical spring resulted in tough driving conditions on several days in route to the release sites. The Hatchery also encountered problems with one of the semi-tractors, the chiller pump, a fish pump, jury duty, and Mother Nature which resulted in the distribution schedule pushed back a week.

For a second year in a row, the Hatchery, in conjunction with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Research Division, continued to track PIT tagged fish loaded onto the Fish Transport trucks. This is accomplished using an array consisting of four antennas placed on the intake hose of the fish pump. The array calculated efficiency values from 91-99%. Efficiency of the array is affected by the number of tagged fish per raceway and the rate fish are crowded into the pump.



Rough start to steelhead distribution 2011 →

Rainbow Trout

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
133	Hayspur	129,507	5,175	25.0	4.40

The rainbow trout continue to do well with survival at 92.8%. A group of 86K sub-catchables are scheduled to be released into Little Camas Reservoir the first week of June. Corie Samson, Idaho Fish Health Center, conducted fish health inspections on April 13th.

OPERATIONS

Bryan Kenworthy, Project Leader, participated in several conference calls concerning hatchery operations. They included: a discussion with regional Fisheries management regarding the possible government wide furlough (which did not happen – a good thing); a second call which provided a briefing on the use of various social media now available for use within the Fisheries program; and a third call to discuss design issues relevant to addressing compliance with the OSHA fall hazard citation the Hatchery received last August.

Dain Bates, Aquatic Biologist, Idaho Power Company (IPC), sampled Bliss Rapids Snail population and habitat abundance in a few of the Hatchery's springs. This project is part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission compliance requirements for IPC licenses at Bliss and Lower Salmon Falls power plants. The study is scheduled annually for the term of the license (23 years).

Idaho Power Company biologist looking for Bliss Rapids snails→

Jack Christiansen, Aquaculture Engineer, Dworshak National Fish Hatchery, was at the Hatchery to evaluate the flow, dissolved oxygen levels, dissolved nitrogen levels, and carrying capacity of the steelhead raceways. Jack will develop recommendations for the Hatchery Evaluation Team to consider to improve steelhead rearing conditions.



A vendor began work on the old Hatchery Building #1 retaining wall to remove PCBs, block-fill, and paint. The process involved the application of a caustic paste to the painted surface which was then covered. After 24 to 48 hours the covering, paste and paint were removed and placed into containers for disposal. Several applications were required to remove the 60 some years of paint layers.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY



Wayne Hamilton, Fish Culturist, Dworshak National Fish Hatchery, arrived at the Hatchery to perform a four week detail to help out with fish distribution. Thanks to Wayne for a job well done during our time of need.

Andrew Varhley, Animal Caretaker (Temporary), and Adam Leija, Animal Caretaker, each served 2-day fish spawning details at the Sawtooth Fish Hatchery.

The Hatchery Staff celebrated Administrative Professionals Day by treating Anna Ray, Fisheries Program Assistant, to lunch.

Adam Leija traveled to Sacramento, CA to attend a Wage Grade Committee meeting.

OUTREACH

Several tours kicked off our season including a group from the OSCHER Life Long Learning, Boise State University retirees and donors, the Twin Falls Perrine 2nd graders, Boise Boy Scout Troop #100, and some University of Idaho Aquaculture students. The Hatchery's guest registry recorded 165 visitors, 10 guests, and 204 guided tours for a total of 379 people.

The Hatchery had two volunteers in the month of April providing a total of 19.5 volunteer hours. We had arranged for a couple to be Hatchery Hosts for the summer but they have experienced some medical problems leaving us without a full-time volunteer program for yet another year.

MAINTENANCE

- Removed snow tires from Chevrolet van
- Replaced Forklift battery
- Prepared Quarters 6 for painting
- Final testing of fish transport life support systems
- Set up, service and test both fish pumps
- Remove clean and reinstall variable frequency drive pump sensors
- Closed winterization valves on all irrigation systems
- Helped Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station close winterization valves and ready their irrigation system
- Replaced faulty 1b aerator switch on Fish Transport 910
- Replaced broken door opener on upper deck feed bin
- Replaced VFD motor controller on E-1 fish pump
- Replaced primer pump valve and solenoid on E-1 fish pump

- Installed new irrigation line around ash tree in Q-4 backyard and reseeded lawn
- Replaced several faulty sprinklers between Q-4 and Q-5