



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 9, 2012

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

FROM: Bob Turik, Acting Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: April, 2012 Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2011

| Lot Number | Stock | Number | Total Fish Weight | Size (#/lb.) | Length (inches) |
|------------|--------------------|---------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 134 | Sawtooth | 455,624 | 109958 | 4.14 | 8.6 |
| 135 | East Fork Hatchery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Steelhead distribution has gone extremely well with no delays due to weather or mechanical breakdowns. The numbers for release as of April are:

| | # of Fish | Pounds | F/Lb |
|----------------|-----------|---------|------|
| Sawtooth Weir | 750,556 | 168,715 | 4.45 |
| East Fork Weir | 196,144 | 42,570 | 4.61 |

Only the Yankee Fork fish remain to be planted in May and we will haul the last of our smolts out on 5/10/12.

Rainbow Trout Brood Year 2012

| Lot Number | Stock | Number | Total Fish Weight | Size (#/lb.) | Length (inches) |
|------------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 136 | Hayspur | 129,468 | 5,648 | 23 | 4.53 |

The rainbow trout continue to do well with overall survival at 94.4%. The de-gassing towers are working well on the trout headbox by reducing the average dissolved nitrogen intake from 103%

to 95% during the month of April. The spring release of 90,000 five-inch fingerlings will occur in mid-May into Little Camas Reservoir. Guppy, Idaho Fish Health Center, performed pre-release fish health inspections on April 17th.

OPERATIONS

A driver's meeting was held with Rich Thompson Trucking to orientate and prepare our contract drivers.

A meeting was held at the Hatchery with a local contractor concerning possible actions surrounding demolition debris in a local landfill from the facilities old Hatchery 1 building. Attendees were: Carlton Morris, Regional Environmental Compliance Coordinator; Rich Johnson, Region 1 Fisheries Supervisor; Larry Telles, Chief, Fisheries Operations; and Bob Turik, Acting Project Leader.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

Hatchery staff completed annual hearing and respirator fit testing. →



Bob Turik traveled to Boise to attend the Idaho Project Leader Meeting.



11/16/1973 TO 04/27/2012

This month's report is dedicated to the memory of our co-worker and friend, Eric Willet. Eric began his career with the USFWS January 25, 1991 as a student clerk at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. Within a year, he advanced to a permanent position as an Animal Caretaker. On January 22, 1995 he transferred to the Hagerman National Fish Hatchery where he was later promoted to a Motor Vehicle Operator in August, 1997. Eric took on many collateral duties and was a valued member of the Hatchery and community. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, weight lifting, jogging, and time with friends and family. He is an integral part of our Hatchery family and will be missed.

COORDINATION

Bob Turik, Acting Project Leader, attended the Idaho Aquaculture Association (IAA) meeting at the University of Idaho conference room.

Bob Turik attended the Lower Snake River Aquifer Recharge District, Board of Directors meeting at the Rangen's Lab.

Lance Roberts, Fire Management Officer, Southeast Idaho refuge Complex, met with Bob Turik to discuss submitting a proposal for funding a fuels reduction project to clean up years of accumulated deadfall and removal of dead trees. This cleanup project will possibly take place over a two year period due to the amount of debris and will enhance the stations ability to combat wild land fires which pose a significant danger to the facility.

Matt Powell, University of Idaho, took samples from Steelhead during the transport process to assess the cumulative stress on fish from crowding until release.

Dain Bates, Idaho Power, sampled for the presence or absence of Bliss Rapids Snails on 250 cobbles in the run-off from mainspring to the display pond. Approximately 50% of the cobbles were occupied indicating that the population is stable. →



Chris Starr, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, Trevor Adams, PSMFC and his staff toured Hagerman National and reviewed the data collection procedures utilized at the facility. The information will be used to improve upon the Snake Basin Hatchery Database that IDFG had started.

Chris Starr returned with McMillan, a design firm working on the degassing project, and surveyors to start initial steps on the degassing project and the oxygen injection system.

OUTREACH

The tourist season in the Hagerman Valley is off to a great start! The Hatchery hosted 2 school tours from the Burley Camas and Jerome Lincoln schools totaling 126 people. The visitor register logged 244 visitors and 50 guests for a total of 420 contacts in the month of April.

Hatchery hosts Terry & Alice Esslinger arrived this month to take their post until September. They have been busy orientating themselves to provide hatchery tours, mowing lawns, performing miscellaneous chores throughout the hatchery, and assisting with loading distribution trucks in the morning. Together they logged 182.5 hours in April.

Amy Turik has continued to volunteer at the Hatchery to assist with administrative duties and logged 21 hours.

Fish distribution spurred added interest in the community from several senior citizens who have volunteered to join the trucks on their mission to deliver steelhead to the river. This month, 10 people rode along for this wonderful experience totaling about 80 volunteer hours.

MAINTENANCE

- Pellet stove logs were ordered and installed in the 4 hatchery residences.
- 60 Perf-O-Grip walkways were received at the hatchery to provide better access on the steelhead raceways.