



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

### MEMORANDUM

April 11, 2012

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

FROM: Bob Turik, Acting Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: March 2012 Activity Report

### PRODUCTION

#### Steelhead Brood Year 2011

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
134	Sawtooth	1,209,788	254,205	4.76	8.28
135	East Fork Hatchery	196,679	40,483	4.86	8.22

The steelhead continue to perform well with 0.21% overall mortality in March. The Idaho Fish Health Center (IFHC) verified furunculosis in the top deck in February. This month, an additional four raceways were treated on the top deck along with three more on the middle deck. The Hatchery chose to treat with Aquaflor for these treatments due to the success we had with it in the past and its availability.

The Hatchery crew sampled length, weight, and dorsal fin indices of smolts from all release groups. Tissue samples were also collected for parental based tagging verification.

Corie Samson (IFHC) was at the Hatchery to perform pre-release inspections on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The Hatchery is scheduled to start BY2011 steelhead distribution on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The first stocking site will be to the Sawtooth State Fish Hatchery Weir, followed by the East Fork Weir, and finishing up with the Yankee Fork release into the lower pond series one. If everything goes according to plans and the weather cooperates, the last scheduled day of fish hauling is May 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Hatchery purchased 40 new belt feeders to be implemented into the Hatch 2 building for BY-12. Future feeders will be acquired for the Hatch 1 building as well. Additionally 60 walkways were purchased for placement on the steelhead raceways to allow for better access to demand feeders while utilizing the cable-vey system. These walkways will improve water

quality to the middle and lower decks by reducing the amount of sedimentation that is disturbed and flows through the fish to the lower decks.

The Main Spring degas system is proceeding as well, though not as quickly as we hoped due to our transition to FBMS. An oxygen supplementation system will also be installed in the near future which is good news as dissolved oxygen levels are now reaching the 4 ppm range in our lower deck.

### **Rainbow Trout Brood Year 2012**

<b>Lot Number</b>	<b>Stock</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Total Fish Weight</b>	<b>Size (#/lb.)</b>	<b>Length (inches)</b>
136	Hayspur	130,032	2,222	59	3.31

The rainbow trout continue to do well with overall survival at 94.8%. The trout were transferred from the hatchery building to the outdoor raceways. The degassing tower on the trout raceways is working well; reducing the percent dissolved nitrogen in the incoming water from 104.2% to 97.7% with only reducing dissolved oxygen by an average of 0.46 ppm. The IFHC is scheduled to perform a pre-release fish health inspection on the trout in April for the May fingerling spring release.

## **OPERATIONS**

Jeremy Trimpey, Fish Biologist, attended the Aquaculture NPDES General Permit Information Gathering Meeting hosted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the Hagerman Fish Culture Experimental Station in Hagerman. EPA permit writers were looking for feedback and suggestions from permit holders for the new General Permit which is scheduled to be issued in the summer of 2012.

Bob Turik, Acting Project Leader, attended a conference call with Carlton Morris, R1 Engineering, and Natalie Doherty, Office of the Solicitor, concerning a pending project to relocate debris from a hatchery building demolition several years ago.

## **PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY**

The Annual Self Audits were conducted and submitted. The crew attended the Annual Hatchery Safety Orientation Meeting and Adam Leija, Animal Caretaker, was designated as the Station Collateral Duty Safety Officer.

## **COORDINATION**

Bob Turik traveled to the Shoshone Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office to attend the annual Coordination Meeting in preparation for the FY2012 fire season. Additionally, Bob was visited by Curtis Jensen and Rich Wilson, from the South Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center (SCIIDC) office to sign the annual cooperators agreement. Anna and Adam will be available to assist when needed as they have done in past years.

## **OUTREACH**

The visitor register logged 269 visitors and 7 guests for a total of 276 contacts in the month of March.

Amy Turik has continued to volunteer at the Hatchery to assist with administrative duties such as re-organizing our filing system. Amy logged 18.5 volunteer hours.

## **MAINTENANCE**

- Pellet Stoves were installed in the 4 hatchery residences.
- The four transport trailers were serviced and prepared for distribution starting on 4/11/12.
- Steve conducted annual residence inspections.
- The hatchery irrigation system was started and small repairs performed.
- The hatchery pasture area has been thinned of all deadfall and small trees and is being prepared for seeding with pasture grasses. This area will be maintained for a hatchery visitor area.