



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

January 17, 2014

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

FROM: Craig Eaton, Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: DECEMBER, 2013 Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2013

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
140	Sawtooth	1,405,028	120,522	11.66	6.14
141	East Fork Hatchery	62,112	4,427	14.03	5.78

Overall the Steelhead continue to do well. We are still seeing some persistent low level mortality that follows cleaning on a couple of raceways. This mortality usually drops off to zero a day or two after cleaning. Idaho Fish Health Center will sample these fish during a January visit. The feed comparison study has been completed and all data has been sent to Chris Peery (Idaho Fisheries Resource Office-Dworshak) for a formal report of results.

Rainbow Trout Brood Year 2013 Fall Release Numbers

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
0	Hayspur	0	0	0	0

There are no rainbow trout on station until we receive eggs in early January, 2014.

OPERATIONS

-Project Leader Eaton attended the monthly Project Leader conference call. Topics discussed included: 1) Continuing Resolution (CR) until at least January 15 but there have been talks of passing a budget; 2) Vision document updates; 3) NFHS review; no closers in 2014 but 2015 may

result in some; 4) Performance awards were capped at 0.92% aggregate salary of station, not to exceed 2012 levels with Quality Step Increases requiring approval from Mike Carrier.

-The reuse project 95% design is now complete. The estimated cost came in higher than desired and in an effort to keep costs affordable a few items were changed. The interior will be gravel vs. concrete floor, it will be a 3-sided building vs. fully enclosed with roll-up doors, and the Hatchery will assume construction of some of the interior accessories. Future modifications to fully enclose the building are anticipated.



- Ground breaking began on construction of a new bunkhouse which will house up to 4 employees/interns when completed in January. This will be a huge advantage to us during hiring as we will be able to offer affordable housing which has historically been our downfall to acquire employees, interns, and volunteers.

- Turns out it is still VERY fortunate that we are conducting night security rounds this time of year. With the continued freezing temperatures, our Administration Building's Visitor Center heat pump was challenged to the edge. One evening the unit failed to reset causing the bathrooms to cool resulting in a burst pipe in the utility room between the two visitor restrooms. As a result, the touch screen computer was sprayed with cold water and the remnants ran under the door and into the entryway where our employee on rounds spotted the "ice-slick". The computer was moved into the Administration building to dry and warm up with hopes it will continue to function. The aging heat pump (1983) continues to struggle and may need to be replaced in the near future.
- Fire extinguishers were served by a commercial vendor in compliance with the station's safety plan.
- During the Administration Building roof replacement last August/September, a large rain storm event occurred while the roof was exposed. The result was rain water entering the interior office space through lighting fixtures and various access points. Since then, the roof has been completed, action taken by the vendor to dry the ceiling space, and two 3rd-party inspections performed. The inspections use evaluation of spore counts in attempt to identify if mold is developing. The initial mold inspection in September was followed by a second two months later which suggests that mold is not a problem at this point. However, before the one-year warranty expires we plan to have another inspection. We have concerns that mold may infest the attic space when the weather warms enough to create an optimum mold growing environment. If mold is found, action would be taken to remove the ceiling insulation, identify the mold location source, and have the roof contractor resolve the problem.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

- December kept us busy as personnel tried to use annual leave before it expired. This always creates a challenge to accomplish both fish culture and administrative tasks. We have initiated our paperwork to hire a 6 month temporary position which will hopefully start in March to assist with distribution, eggs, and tagging.

-Progress continues to establish our new Tribal Training Program with the Shoshone Bannock Tribe. This will involve training two tribal members who are pursuing careers in hatcheries. These trainees will work at the facility at various times throughout the year to gain experience with the full spectrum of hatchery duties.

-The annual Northwest Fish Culture Conference was hosted by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Boise this year. Given its close proximity we were able to drive back-and-forth each day to allow staff members to attend without incurring the usual travel expenses.

-Maintenance Mechanic Money traveled to Denver, CO to attend FAC-COR training. This training will allow our Contracting Officers to designate Mr. Money as an official Contracting Officer Representative providing Hagerman with more control over our larger projects.

-Hatchery staff and their families celebrated the holiday season with our annual game feed at a local restaurant on Saturday, December 14th.

COORDINATION

- The Hatchery hosted several visitors during the week of the Northwest Fish Culture Conference. One group was with Steve Sharon and members of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Project Leader Eaton and Assistant Project Leader Turik took them on a tour of the Hatchery. The amount of water Idaho Hatcheries have to work with made Steve and his group of managers a little jealous. Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. hatcheries have transitioned to circular reuse systems due to their extremely limited water supplies. Steve says they are very happy with the results and are looking forward to seeing how our proposed reuse system works with steelhead. He is sure it will be successful.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS

- Project Leader Eaton met with the Hagerman Bird Festival committee to discuss the up-coming festival in February 2014. The Hatchery is working with our Regional Visitor Services department to update our Hatchery brochures with maps to assist attendees with access around the detour for the road that washed out in September.

December saw single digit cold weather and some days in the negatives....brrrrr. However, even though we managed one decent snow storm, we still had a not-so-white Christmas. Visitor numbers were very low due to the weather and holidays.

Volunteer Hours: 0

Hatchery Contacts/Visitors: < **16yrs** = 02 >**16yrs** = 21

MAINTENANCE

- Oxygen System 2nd upgrade from 2" to 3" and now 4".
- Started plumbing 4-inch, schedule 80 oxygen injection lines
- Plumbed 6-inch, schedule 80 from pump to Pressure Packed Column
- Did the layout for Bunkhouse foundation
- Inspected Bunkhouse foundation and stem walls
- Attended FAC-COR level 2 training in Denver CO.
- Locate domestic water system valves to isolate during bunkhouse hookup
- Bunkhouse builder here to discuss with sub-contractors logistical plans

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