



# 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 19, 2013

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

FROM: Bob Turik, Assistant Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: JANUARY, 2013 Activity Report

### PRODUCTION

#### Steelhead Brood Year 2012

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
137	Sawtooth	1,186,109	151,431	7.8	7.01
138	East Fork Hatchery	155,861	17,921	8.7	6.77

The steelhead smolts continue to do very well with overall survival from last month at 99.9%.

Corie Samson, Idaho Fish Health Center was here on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to perform monthly fish health diagnostics.

#### Rainbow Trout

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
139	Hayspur	143,395	36	4,000	0.81

The Hatchery received 157K triploid rainbow trout eggs from Hayspur State Fish Hatchery January 16<sup>th</sup>. Overall hatch rate was higher than the past few brood years at 90.9%.

## OPERATIONS

**Recirculating System:** We are currently at the 60% design phase and awaiting our contractor's updated estimates.

**Steelhead Raceway Oxygen Injection:** The oxygen injection tower will provide needed oxygen to the Steelhead raceways during the final months of rearing. Last April, just prior to distribution, dissolved oxygen in the bottom bank of steelhead raceways was below 5 ppm in the heaviest loaded raceways. The tower is due to ship early February.

**Degas System:** The Degas system on Spring 13, which is currently running at 106%, has been running for almost 1 month now. The Rainbow Trout in Hatch 2 have been on degassed water for the entire time since their arrival in January; however, there was a small amount of down time on the system when extremely cold weather caused icing issues. The system is currently lowering the Nitrogen level down to 100% and with some fine tuning we are hoping to see 98%N.

The Main Spring Degas system is also operational and is in the tuning stage. One of the problems we anticipated was the intake screen above has limited open space restricting the flow down the new pipeline. The new pipeline routes 30 cfs of water through the degas towers and the old screens were not designed for that amount of flow. The new screens, with a larger amount of open space, are being procured. We are still able to get *most* of the water we wanted through the system. We are able to lower the Nitrogen from 105% at the Len Lewis intake down to 97%N, with no removal of oxygen at the Steelhead raceways.



## PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

### COORDINATION

Jan. 8-11: Brian Clifford, Motor Vehicle Operator, worked with Dean Grism (Idaho Department of Fish and Game) moving rocks from the excavation of the degas project. Rocks will be used for the Hagerman Wildlife Management Unit in a parking area.



Jan. 14: Manager Eaton and Assistant Manager Turik attended a Project Leader conference call hosted by Deputy Assistant Regional Director Julie Collins. She mainly discussed the budget for Region 1 Fisheries and the National Fish Hatchery Review with results that will be coming due March 1st.

Jan. 15: Manager Eaton attended the local Water District 36A annual meeting. Attendees elected a Chairman and 2013 Advisory Board Members. HNFH is a member of this water district so it is beneficial for us to attend to find out about new information on our water rights.

Jan. 17: Fish Biologist Trimpey and Manager Eaton attended fish marking schedule for BY2013 steelhead with Magic Valley Steelhead and Niagara Springs Hatcheries. It was determined that three trailers will be available. HNFH will have one trailer the entire time beginning January 24<sup>th</sup>. Magic Valley will need both marking trailers July and Niagara Springs would have both trailers the first week of August. After marking fish from Magic Valley and Niagara Springs, the two remaining trailers will come to HNFH to finish up marking.

Jan. 21: Manager Eaton attended the Lower Snake River Aquifer Recharge District (LSRARD) annual meeting. A brief history of the LSRARD and the aquifer recharge efforts was presented. Attendees were shown two presentations modeling aquifer recharge sites and how injected water spreads throughout the area. The meeting also had a discussion of recharge legislation proposing a desire to use recharge water to mitigate new water rights. Most people at the meeting were against the new water rights.

Jan. 21: Manager Eaton attended the Idaho Aquaculture Association (IAA) meeting. Topics discussed were updating aquaculture language in Idaho's Animal Cruelty Law. The law evidently does not address fish and fish culture practices. The IAA needed someone from the group to represent them in the proposed legislation on water recharge for new water rights. The whole idea for water recharge was to build the aquifer back up to historical levels to maintain aquaculture levels, not to build new developments to extract from the aquifer. Manager Eaton was persuaded to give a presentation on our degassing towers for the annual meeting in June.

Jan. 30: Hatchery personnel met with Lance Roberts, USFWS Fire Management Officer, to discuss Hagerman NFH's Fire Management Plan. The plan is in its last stages and close to being finalized.

Jan. 30: Assistant Manager Turik and Manager Eaton traveled to Boise, ID to the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP) office to meet with the Manager and Facility Operations Specialist from the Irrigon Fish Hatchery. We discussed their use of alarms and how we could potentially operate a similar system at HNFH, especially for the proposed partial re-use system at HNFH. We also met with Chris Starr to discuss how HNFH would like to operate projects done on station discussed how, with the new FBMS system, we could be beneficial in doing business with their office in the future. The day concluded with attending Scott Marshall's retirement celebration later that night.

Jan. 31: Assistant Manager Turik and Manager Eaton met with other hatchery managers of the LSRCP to discuss various issues and changes that could impact us in the future. Mainly to get acquainted with each other and to talk about similar issues each of us have that could possibly be resolved by working together and sharing information.

## **OUTREACH**

January's consistently cold weather resulted in only 14 visitors signing the guest book. There were no scheduled tours and 9 guests for a total of 23 January contacts.

**FACEBOOK - VISIT AND "LIKE" US AT:**

<HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/HAGERMAN-NATIONAL-FISH-HATCHERY/403395333013900>

## **MAINTENANCE**

- Installed and connected vacuum lines, vacuum pumps, and manifolds to all degas towers. Spring 13 required almost 200 feet of vacuum line which is buried alongside our new Spring 13 water line.
- Pumped Mainspring water into Spring 13 degas vacuum line to thaw ice
- Cut Spring 13 vacuum degas line and raise manifold to help reduce water in line
- Added conduit and conductors for electrical service at Mainspring degas tower area
- Uniform Committee meeting in Albuquerque NM
- Quarterly domestic water bacteria test
- Weld brackets on Mainspring degas structure to attach vacuum line