



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

MEMORANDUM

October 3, 2014

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

FROM: Craig Eaton, Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 2014 Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2014

Lot Number	Stock	Number Fry	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
143	Sawtooth	1,481,529	23,488	63.08	3.52
144	East Fork Hatchery	61,794	850	72.7	3.34

Steelhead marking was completed in September. This year the steelhead were a little on the small size and the mark crew shut down in August and returned in September for a third event to allow for additional growth. We have addressed this issue by rescheduling our marking for later in the year, late August/early September, for BY-15. Marking went well on the last event with no major complications. The fish for the Reuse evaluation study were marked and placed back into Hatch 1 due to the reuse system needing final modifications to the CO2 stripper and LHO. After marking, fish in several of the tanks were noticed to have deep clips and some elevated mortality (this was discussed with PSMFC staff). Overall, this mortality amounted to approximately 500 fish out of the 93K for the study. Consequently, a preventive formalin treatment for *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (Ich) had been done when this occurred so the formalin may have assisted us by preventing additional secondary infection from the deep clips. Mortality remains low for this group.

The outside steelhead remain to be treated with formalin for Ich as mentioned last month. This treatment consists of a 50 ppm - 6 hour flow through treatment. Treatments have been reduced to once per week versus the original three times per week. This weekly treatment is likely to continue through November at which time we will re-assess the condition and decide whether to continue. Mortality remains low for this group.

Rainbow Trout Brood Year 2014

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb.)	Length (inches)
142	Hayspur	39404	14,130	2.79	9.13

The Rainbow trout catchables were released in mid-September in Lake Walcott. Water levels were good for release compared to levels last year which restricted our release sites. The transport went well and took place over 4 days. There was no mortality during transport. Next year, the Idaho Fish and Game Department has requested that we increase the target release size for fall catchables to 12-inches and reduce production by 10,000 fish.

OPERATIONS

-The Reuse Aquaculture System (RAS) is waiting for the contractor to modify the tower to prevent splashing. The splashing is creating a slip-hazard around the tower that will freeze during winter as well as create a biosecurity issue. The third party fabricator of the tower is making additional parts to be bolted onto the tower as a splash shield. A vortex disruptor is also being made to prevent vortices from forming in the LHO. These fabrications and installation should be the final delay in this project.

PERSONNEL/TRAINING/SAFETY

-Project Leader Eaton attended the Regional Fishery monthly conference call. Topics discussed were: 1) Assistant Regional Director (ARD) Meeting in DC update; 2) the announcement of R1 new Fisheries ARD, Roy Elicker; 3) FY2014 budget update; and 4) Feedback on R1 Fisheries Project Leader Meeting.

-Fisheries Line Supervisor Rich Johnson was here to give Project Leader Eaton his annual performance evaluation. Rich also toured the newly built reuse aquaculture system facility.

-Animal Caretaker Adam Leija participated in a two week Maintenance Action Team (MAT) project with the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge in Fallon, NV. The project replaced an



existing water delivery structure which delivers water to approximately 3000 acres of refuge wetlands. Settling of the soil had caused shearing of the existing pipes. Duties included replacing the multiple gate water control structure. Adam obtained certification for dozer, backhoe and wheel loader while on duty. MAT teams allow the Service to utilize their employees with varying degrees of experience to conduct maintenance projects around the country. These teams provide substantial cost savings to the Service while providing additional employee training that makes them a more well-rounded asset to themselves and the Service.

COORDINATION

Jeremy Trimpey, Hatchery Biologist, assisted Idaho Fish and Game Department for 3 days running a kokanee trap/spawning operation. The trap is located at a remote camp on the Deadwood River, Deadwood Reservoir in Idaho. The operation is responsible for providing the majority of kokanee eggs for the states stocking program. The job involved daily trap duties and conducting spawning operations to collect and fertilize eggs, preparing eggs for shipment, and flying the eggs out from a remote air strip nearby to meet with the host hatchery. These eggs will provide fish for stocking in all areas of the state of Idaho the following year.

-Project Leader Eaton attended the Idaho Aquaculture Association (IAA) and U.S. Trout Farmers Association (USTFA) Fall Conference. Eaton gave a presentation of the Hatchery's new technology to improve the water quality.

-The Hatchery is providing a room in our bunkhouse for the National Parks Service (NPS), Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument's Student Conservation Association intern, Jordan Fisher. As part of our Intra-agency agreement with the NPS, Jordan will work in the new Twin Falls visitor center when it opens in December. His outreach responsibilities include providing visitors information about the opportunities in our area with highlights about the Hagerman NPS and NFH facilities.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS

Assistant Hatchery Manager Turik toured 15 people from IAA and USTFA around the hatchery to view the new technology and water improvements.

- Members from the Shoshone Paiute Fisheries and Bonneville Power Administration staff also toured the RAS project. The Shoshone Paiute are interested in starting a hatchery on their reservation and looked at our facility as an example of what they would like to develop. Assistant Manager Turik has agreed to work with Rick Edwards, Fisheries Program Director, in establishing a working relationship with the Tribe to enhance training of their staff and form a direct communication with ongoing operations of the RAS system.

-The Hatchery was one of the stops for the 15th Annual Hagerman Car Show Fun Run. Hosted by the Hagerman Chamber of Commerce, this year's event registered over 200 cars that provided a kaleidoscope of color and generations of vehicles.

-Group tours were given for the Sun Valley Community School and a *Newmar* Motor Coach group. Volunteer informational packets were provided to the motor coach group attendees in hope of obtaining future Hatchery Volunteer Hosts.

Volunteer Hours: 2 (A.Turik)
Hatchery Contacts/Visitors: < 16yrs = 98 >16yrs = 418

MAINTENANCE

- Replaced dishwasher in Quarters 4
- Replaced kitchen faucet Quarters 4
- Refilled liquid oxygen tank for Recirc system.
- Reset oxygen probes for Recirc system
- Mounted new 60 KW generator for Recirc system
- Buried shade covers for Recirc building
- Cleaned filter for Formalin system
- Cleaned dragon filter at mixing chamber
- Replaced sun faded and damaged confined space signs
- Filled and compacted all the asphalt cuts made for RAS building and O2 injection system
- Installed aluminum screen at Spring 17 intake
- Planted grass seed at RV Pads
- Repaired sprinklers at RV Pads

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