



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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MEMORANDUM

To: Fisheries Supervisor, Columbia Basin Ecoregion
Region 1, Portland, OR

From: Complex Manager
Dworshak Fisheries Complex

Subject: **Monthly Activity Report –December, 2008**

Fish Management Culture *Dworshak*

Spring Chinook Salmon (SCS) ***Brood Year 2007 (BY07)***

At the end of the month there were 1,027,687 BY07 SCS averaging 27 fish per pound (fpp) and 127 mm (5.0 inches) total length on station. These fish are being held in A and B-Bank raceways (RW's). Mortality for the month averaged 0.12 percent. Water temperature averaged 45.0°F and flow averaged 500 gpm/RW. On December 17, a formalin treatment was given to all BY07 SCS to control *Trichodina Sp.*

Brood Year 2008

At the end of the month there were 368,993 eyed eggs of Dworshak stock incubating at Dworshak National Fish Hatchery (DNFH). Chilled incubation water temperature for the month averaged 36.6°F and the SCS are currently targeted to go on feed in April, 2009. There were also 820,000 eyed eggs of Dworshak stock transferred to Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (KNFH) in October for incubation over the winter. These fish will be transferred back to Dworshak around April 1st and then reared in the raceways until 2010.

COHO SALMON (COS)

Brood Year 2007

At the end of December there were 284,907 BY07 COS averaging 21 fpp being reared in C-bank RW's. Mortality for the month averaged 0.3 percent and no chemical treatments were administered.

Brood Year 2008

A total of 1,113,663 eyed eggs were enumerated in December. A portion of these eggs were to remain on station for the Coho production needs of 280,000 presmolts for release

in the spring of 2010 with an additional 650,000 eyed eggs to be shipped to the Eagle Creek NFH for rearing of an additional 550,000 presmolts. Mother Nature interfered with this plan creating heavy snow and road conditions precluding the transfer of these eyed eggs to the Eagle Creek NFH. The fate of the surplus fry will be determined next month.

SUMMER STEELHEAD (SST)

Brood Year 2008

Mortality for December remained low for the second month in row. All systems were run on single pass river water rather than switching to the reuse systems (heated water) as fish growth has been slightly higher than projected. Due to the high mortality throughout the summer and fall as a result of *Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus* (IHNV) and Cold Water Disease, the 2.1 million target release number for SST will not be met in the spring of 2009.

On December 5, a formalin treatment was given to all SST in System I to control *Trichodina sp* and *Epistylis sp*. On December 16, a formalin treatment was administered to SST in BPs 24, 32, 36, and 40 for control of *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (ICH) and *Chilodenella sp*. There were no chemical treatments administered to the SST in System III during the month.

Since all three systems were operated on single pass water throughout the month, water temperature averaged 45.0°F. Average flow per BP was approximately 500 gpm.

RAINBOW TROUT (RBT)

Brood Year 2008 done

By the end of the month there were 12,180 BY08 RBT in System III averaging 3.1 (fpp) and 235 mm (9.3 inches) total length. Mortality for the month was 2.0 percent.

Water temperature averaged 45.0°F and water flow was 500 gpm/BP.

On December 19, a formalin treatment was given to the RBT in BP60 to control ICH. BP 60 also tested positive for IHNV.

These RBT will be for Open House 2009.

SUMMARY

Table 1. Total Production—Fish on Station (12/31/08).

SP	BY	Location	Number	Wt (lbs)	FPP	L in	L mm
COS	07	C-Bank RWs	284,907	13,836	20.6	5.2	131
RBT	08	BP 60 & 62	12,180	3,879	3.1	9.3	235
SCS	07	A Bank RWs	1,027,687	38,464	26.7	5.0	127
SST	08	System I	704,602	62,901	11.2	6.3	161
SST	08	System II	645,527	76,136	8.5	7.0	177
SST	08	System III	474,879	75,865	6.3	7.7	196
Total			3,149,782	271,081			

Kooskia

Kooskia Trap Operations Brood Year (BY) 2008

The trap was remained closed through December.

Kooskia Brood Year 2008

All Kooskia stock BY2008 eggs are currently being incubated at Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (KNFH) on chilled well water. Eggs currently number 709,522.

Dworshak Brood Year 2008

All Dworshak stock BY2008 eggs are currently being incubated at KNFH on chilled well water. Eggs currently number 807,969.

Kooskia Brood Year 2007

Kooskia stock BY2007 SCS number 442,810 averaging 31.1 fish per pound (fpp) at 4.75 inches long. Growth for the month was .03 inches.

Dworshak Brood Year 2007

Dworshak stock BY2007 SCS number 161,862 averaging 25.4 fpp at 5.08 inches long. Growth for the month was .04 inches.

Creek water temperature averaged 33.8°F during December. A Idaho Fish Health Center (IFHC) exam conducted December 15 showed overall good fish health without the presence of *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (ICH). No formalin treatments were administered this month. Low growth was due to cold temperatures and pond icing.

Maintenance

Dworshak

- Performed vehicle maintenance on IFHC pick-up, Gator, tiger trucks and lawn tractor.
- Cleaned system I clarifiers in for reuse.
- Fabricated table for IFHC and a toe hitch for the Gator.

- Unloaded and installed a tissue processor and lift in the IFHC.
- Removed and replaced pond scrubber brushes on drive shaft.
- Operated water valves for firefighters during the recent fire that burned down the Nez Perce church.
- Repaired exercise machine at IFHC.
- Set up fish pump and pumped fish from pond to pond in System II & III.
- Built and installed new drain plates for mix cell ponds.
- Cleaned system I clarifiers in for reuse.
- Daily: checked Fire Maintenance pumps, filters and adjusted valves; traveling water screens and cleaned fish trap, grounds and building maintenance.
- Cleaned Main Pump house.
- Repaired damaged water truck fill station at B-bank.
- Met with members of Muckleshoot Tribe in Washington on the reuse system here at DNFH.

Kooskia

- Gerry Fogleman installed the new sludge pump housing in the biofilter pipe gallery.

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Meetings/Training/Travel

Dworshak

- 12/2-4 Northwest Fish Culture Conference held in Spokane, WA this year. Attending were: Larry Peltz, Complex Manager; Mark Drobish, Hatchery Manager; Rick Allain, Gia Growing Thunder, Wayne Hamilton, Rob Kellar, Animal Caretakers; Mike Bisbee, Thomas Trock, Ray Jones & Mark Bright, Fisheries Biologists; John Vargas, Animal Caretaker Supervisor; and Krista Hostetler, Maintenance worker.
- 12/16 Larry Peltz, Mark Drobish and Jill Olson met with Christine Moffitt from University of Idaho, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) staff and personnel from the Columbia River Fisheries Intertribal Commission regarding possibility of raising kelts on-station.

Kooskia

- 12/2-4 Adam Izbicki, Fisheries Biologist; Art Broncheau, Animal Caretaker for NPT attended the Northwest Fish Culture Conference held in Spokane, WA.
- 12/10 Adam Izbicki, Marv Henry (Region Office), Larry Peltz, Ed Larson (NPT), Anan Raymond, Archaeologist and Patrick Baird (NPT) met at Kooskia to discuss new quarters project.
- 12/16 Adam Izbicki, Art Broncheau and Gerry Fogleman (NPT) attended the NPT Department of Fisheries Management annual meeting in Lewiston, ID.

Miscellaneous

12/18 All employee family Christmas potluck held in the Main Building Conference Room. The November and December birthdays were also celebrated. A drawing was held for an employee to select what charity(s) designated for the CFC cash raised from Chili Feed, Bake Sale, etc. Fishery Biologist Jill Olson was selected. There was also a drawing for employees who contributed chips for the Regional "*I Gave 8 - Let's Go Outside*" Program.

Personnel Actions –

12/29 Megan Wandag, I/E Specialist, began telework duty from home prior to her expected maternity leave in January.

Safety/Wellness -

Information/Education (I/E)

Dworshak

Tours- 1, for 5 people from the Muckleshoot Tribe in Washington

Visitor Register 29,

Visitor Contacts – 32, mainly visitors coming to Spawn Shop for closeout sale

Volunteers - 1 Hours – 6

Website contacts – (data not available until Jan)

On-site:

- I/E staff participated in Regional Kids in Nature conference call to brief the new Regional Director on program and FY09 projects.
- Other conference calls for the month included: Fisheries Information System update with Regional coordinator; FNWH and NCITA board mtgs., and 2 for the IdEEA board mtgs.
- Submitted activities to the Idaho Children and Nature Working group for Governor Otter briefing, rollout of statewide '*Lets Go Outside*' 2009 program.
- Received 2 drafts of the new hatchery brochure from the contractor for all staff to review and return for final production. Contract was extended to April 2009 for completion.
- Began final closeout sale of Spawn Shop, with great support from the public, media and staff. The Shop is expected to close by mid-January.

Off-site:

- Staffed a booth for the Natural Resource Career Fair at Nez Perce tribal headquarters in Lapwai; over 250 middle and high school students participated.
- Picked up a Fin Bin from Lapwai High School biology class.
- I/E staff attended the Project WET-North annual facilitator training in Moscow, on University of Idaho campus. Plans for the year include recruiting new teacher-facilitators, modified teacher WET workshops, and North Idaho Water Camp in July at LCSC campus.
- Monthly Dworshak Explorers Club after-school club meeting and activity at Orofino Elementary School – 14 students attended, learned beak and feeding adaptations of birds in different habitats, then constructed pine cone bird feeders.

Kooskia

No visitors signed the guest book. No guided tours, but many visitors stopping to check the trap, see the big fish, and take a look around the hatchery grounds, when it wasn't snowed in or ponds frozen

Website contacts: (data not available)

Outreach projects:

- Did a Salmon in the Classroom check on Nezperce High School, all doing well, going on feed next month.
- Met with Kamiah fisheries project team, new principal and Superintendent for direction/plans in 2009. Student job shadow, classroom fishery biologists visits, on-site tours and coldwater fish culture lessons are planned.
- Provided Kamiah High School with 340-eyed SCS eggs for phase one of their classroom rearing project.
- Began work on article for FWS fisheries publication "*Eddies*", featuring animal caretaker Art Broncheau and his perspective as a tribal member working in fisheries.



Larry Peltz

Complex Manager

cc: Kooskia NFH
Hagerman NFH
CFRU – Moscow
Dworshak Production (2)
LSRCP – Boise