MONTHLY NARRATIVE
CLEARWATER FISH HATCHERY
DECEMBER 2009

BY09 SPRING CHINOOK

At month’s end, South Fork lots 1-4 swim up fry and Powell lots 1-4 swim up fry were ponded. These fish filled a total of 21 vats.

The remaining lots are expected to go to pond prior to January 25, 2010.

Swim Up /Sac Fry # on hand

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Powell</td>
<td>1,479,906</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Fork</td>
<td>1,448,377</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,928,283</td>
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The crew is continuing to pressure wash and disinfect egg trays as fish are ponded. All fish that have been ponded are eating well and mortalities have been low. The average water temperature for the month was 45°F.

BY09 SUMMER CHINOOK

At month’s end, there were 214,169 sac fry on hand. These fish are expected to go to pond prior to January 15, 2010. These fish will be placed in four vats, separate from the Spring Chinook.

BY08 CHINOOK

A total of 2,254,967 Chinook were on hand at month’s end. Of these, a total of 945K Powell stock averaging 22.4 fpp were on hand for the Powell releases, the Selway releases, and half of the Clear Creek releases. Also on hand, were 1,309K South Fork stock Chinook averaging 23.1 fpp for the Red River releases, the Crooked River releases, and half of the Clear Creek release.

Water temperatures dropped during the month to 42°F in the Chinook bank and 44°F in the Steelhead bank. Due to an “Alaska” cold front that moved in, the Steelhead bridge was unusable for 9 days. The compressor was turned off on the Chinook bank, and the pipes were set to evenly distribute the feed. This worked well, so we were able to feed the Chinook bank during the cold snap.

A few anemic fish were found in the 200’ section of the Steelhead bank, but close inspection revealed very few fish that were showing these signs. Overall, the Chinook appear to be very healthy, and mortality has been extremely low.

BY09 STEELHEAD

A total of 855,964 Steelhead averaging 6.6 fpp were on hand at month’s end.

Because of the “Alaskan” cold front that moved thru this area shut down the Steelhead bridges for nine days during the month. This prevented us from meeting growth projections, and hurt the monthly conversion. To make up for this loss, a third person will be put on weekend duty to just feed the Steelhead.
Fish health on the Steelhead remains excellent, and mortality has remained very low.

**MISC PROJECTS**

*The production crew completed cleaning and disinfection of the isolation incubation building.

*The production crew worked on cleaning and organizing in the bone yard and Red shed.

*The maintenance crew rebuilt the 8” fish pump and installed a new motor and hydraulic pump.

*The maintenance crew changed oil and winterized a number of pressure washers and wacker pumps.

*A new cleaning system was built and installed on the Steelhead bridges.

*The home alarm systems were gone thru and serviced.

*Jerry, Jordan Rider and Chris Shockman worked several days on the transfer of NPDES water sampling duties and data recording from Jordan Rider to Chris Shockman.

*Jerry and Jordan Rider worked several days on NPDES annual report.

*All staff annual review of Best Management Plan and Quality Assurance Plan for NPDES permit.

*Jordan Rider resigned his IDFG position for a wildlife manager position on a private ranch in MT. 12/23/09 was his last day of work.

*On 12/2/09 as best as we can figure, Ernie had a timed released box of gremlins set to go off after he retired, on this day, 2 hot water heaters went out and were being replaced when the main 2 inch water supply line in the admin building broke 2 times, the compressor went out on the Dorm HVAC, the breaker for ½ of the hatchery building faulted and possibly a portion of the phone system was effected by the geyser and a flood damage company was called in to save the carpet in the office. The total repairs for that day will total over $13,000 when all is added up.

*A 2 week cold snap caused a 2 inch and a 1 inch water line inside the hydro plant to freeze and break. Our maintenance staff along with Brad George and Jerry McGehee quickly responded and had everything fully operational in about 4 hours. My narrative would not be able to adequately describe the urgency of the repair considering there are 2 high voltage generators in the same room with the potential geysers. We were able to shut down both water lines with isolator valves and safely make the repairs. A 1 inch water line also broke inside the isolation incubation building and was repaired and put back into operation.