

MONTHLY NARRATIVE CLEARWATER FISH HATCHERY SEPTEMBER 2008

BY08 STEELHEAD

A total of 843,381 Steelhead at 26.70 fpp were on hand at month's end. Fish health remained excellent, with low mortalities. Water temperatures ranged from 55° to 57°F throughout the month.

The feed study on vats 2 and 3 concluded this month and these fish were reintegrated with raceway 5 East on the Steelhead bank.

Upcoming projects next month include: extending all Steelhead raceways from the 50 ft mark to the 100 ft mark and fall condition factors on each release group.

BY07 CHINOOK

A total of 1,512,991 Chinook from the Powell (404,277) and the South Fork (1,108,714) FTS release groups at 46.58 fpp were on hand at month's end.

A total of 634,072 Chinook from the Powell pre-smolt/FTS study group (374,021) and the Selway FTS (300,051) at 29.05 fpp were on hand at month's end. These two groups of fish are being reared on the Steelhead bank where water temperatures average 4°-6°F warmer than the Chinook bank. Feed conversions have been exceptional over the past month and these two groups of Chinook will be cut back to 3 days of feed per week.

A total of 133,437 pre-smolt sized Chinook at 36 fpp were transferred to the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery on September 10, 2008.

Fish health remained excellent throughout the month. Water temperatures averaged between 53°-55°F.

Upcoming projects include fall condition factors on each Chinook release group.

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RAINBOW TROUT

2,400 Rainbow Trout at 1.8 fpp were stocked into Burling, Campbell's, Powell, Karolyn's and Fenn ponds this month. Three plant sites remain for next month which will conclude Rainbow plants for the year.

ADULT TRAPPING 2008

At the end of trapping, a total of 2,775 spring Chinook were handled, including 2,336 adults and 439 jacks. Total trapped Chinook included 869 (734 adults, 135 jacks) at Red River, a total of 660 (531 adults, 129 jacks) at Crooked River, a total of 1,128 (964 adults, 164 jacks) at Powell and a total of 118 (107 adults, 11 jacks) at Crooked Fork.

The last fish was trapped on September 4, 2008. All Chinook held for broodstock were injected with Gallimycin-100 with a dosage rate of 20mg/kg, scanned for PIT tags and CWT tags, and treated daily with Formalin.

An exact accounting of all the Chinook trapped will be forthcoming upon the completion of the annual run report.

SPRING CHINOOK EGG COLLECTION 2008

POWELL

At the end of spawning, a total of 451 females were spawned at Powell for Clearwater's program and 40 were spawned for the Nez Perce tribe.

At the end of September, all the Powell eggs were shocked and picked. A total of 395 female's eggs were kept after culling and yielded 1,703K green eggs and 1,532K eyed eggs for an eye-up average of 90%. Fecundity at Powell this year increased substantially to 4,312 eggs per female.

SOUTH FORK STOCK

At the end of spawning, a total of 558 females spawned at Clearwater for the Clearwater program and 15 were spawned for the Nez Perce tribe.

At the end of September, 6 of the 8 egg takes on the South Fork program had been shocked and picked. Eggs from 398 females have thus far been kept, and have yielded 1,746K green eggs and 1,675K eyed eggs for an eye-up of 96%. Fecundity on the South Fork also increased significantly to 4,387 eggs per female.

All eggs were treated with Formalin for 15 minutes at 1,667 ppm every other day until picking. DNA samples were collected off of every fish used for spawning this year.

SATELLITES REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

- All the weirs were cleaned and stored for winter.
- Adult holding at Powell, Red River and at Clearwater were pressure washed and drained for winter.
- The river intakes at Powell and Colt Killed Creek, Red River and Upper and Lower Crooked River were pumped to remove sand and sediment.
- The three phase pumps (emergency use) at Powell were cleaned and fired up for testing.
- The cement platform on the Lochsa River was starting to undermine from high flows. This problem was fixed by placing cement blocks under it, then cementing them into place, then rebuilding the rock infrastructure to prevent the problem from happening again.
- The three compounds on the South Fork were sprayed for noxious weeds and a ground sterilant applied to problem areas.
- Wackers and pressure washers were brought down for maintenance and winterizing.
- All the sprayer pumps at all satellites were drained.
- The juvenile pond at Powell was equipped with new dam boards and the upwellers were winterized.
- All the dam boards in the juvenile pond at Red River were caulked and wedged and the pond was cleaned and winterized.
- All the visitor information signs at all four satellites were taken down and stored for winter.
- The Red River floating weir was brought down to the main hatchery for a major rebuild.
- Rebuilt dryer vent on Powell Cabin.

HATCHERY REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

- New water separators on Chinook Bank feeders installed.
- Repaired feeders on Chinook and Steelhead Banks.
- Replace air safety valve on Chinook compressors.
- Installed new engine in Cushman “B”
- Started repair of safety rails on Steelhead Bridge
- Built shelves and racks in Red Shed
- Worked on hazardous waste spill containment for truck shed including safety grates.
- Started construction of antiquities display case.
- Inspected and restocked First Aid kits
- Winterized two trucks for winter storage.
- Completion of Bi-annual vehicle reports

MISC

Cassie and Brad attended the Hatchery Review Stakeholder Meeting in Lewiston on September 29, 2008. Jerry attended the same meeting as a CFH representative in Boise on September 30.

Purchased underwater video camera to inspect primary intake screen and valves at Hydro plant.

Purchased steam/pressure washer for fall/winter truck and equipment disinfection station at Hatchery entrance.

Jerry hired two 8 month Bio-aides for fall/winter service.

Jerry coordinated for both Persi and Pepsco Retirement seminars to be held at CFH .

Jerry and Holly worked with U of I for the transfer of Artifacts discovered on Hatchery site at time of construction and an artist who painted interpretive panels for Historic Display in visitor center.

Jerry attended database planning meeting in Nampa

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Millie entered data from Chinook trapping and spawning until she wore her fingers to the bone.

John Haines-database programmer conducted training session here for permanent staff .