

Clearwater Hatchery

Monthly Narrative

September 2007

Production

BY06 Chinook Pre-Smolt/Surplus

A total of 384,520 Chinook at 19.25 FPP were released between September 24-27, 2007, from the Powell pond as a pre-smolt. The release went well, and seemed to match some of the wild fish migrations through the screw traps. A total of 998 were PIT tagged.

A total of 122,326 Chinook at 23.0 FPP were released between September 17-20, 2007 from the Red River pond as a pre-smolt. The release went well. There were no PIT tags in this group.

A total of 126,855 Chinook at 43.6 FPP were transferred to the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery on September 11, 2007. These fish were 100% CWT with no clips. They will be held at the tribal hatchery through the winter and released in the spring. The transfer went well.

All the Parr/Pre-Smolts from BY06 have now been released.

BY06 Chinook Full Term Smolts

A total of 1,859,412 Chinook are on hand for the full term smolt program.

A total of 416,123 @ 48.8 FPP are on hand for the Powell release, 1,133,770 @ 48.8 FP are on hand for the Red River/Crooked River releases, and 309,519 @ 53.0 FPP are on hand for the Selway releases.

Fish health in these groups remains excellent, and mortality has remained low.

Water temperatures on the Chinook bank have been maintained between 52-54°F through the month.

BY07 Steelhead

This was a good month for Steelhead growth at Clearwater. Currently there are 822,026 Steelhead averaging 16.45 FPP to 27 FPP. All the fish grew well during the month and are on schedule to break 5 FPP at release.

Fish Health is excellent on these fish, and mortality has dropped significantly.

Water temperatures were maintained between 55-57°F through the month.

Satellites

Spawning was concluded on September 5, 2007. A total of 526 females at Powell and 142 females on the South Fork were spawned. In addition, 160 females were received from Rapid River on August 27, 2007.

All lots have been picked at the hatchery, including 514 females of Powell stock for a total of 1,870,377 eyed eggs and 139 females of South Fork stock for a total of 517,118 eyed eggs, 158 females of Rapid River stock for a total of 696,457 eyed eggs.

Crews worked on winterizing the satellites during September. All satellites are winterized except for the cabins which will get winterized in early November.

Other Projects

Ernie and the maintenance crew completed the fifth of six drain fields at the hatchery residences.

Randy Hutzenbiler resigned from his Assistant Manager position to take a Conservation Officer position in Montana.

Jerry McGehee attended the Hatchery Review Team meeting in Boise.

Ernie and maintenance crew fabricated and installed a new bumper system on the intake platform at Dworshak Dam where wave action bounces it against the dam.

Jerry, Chris Shockman and Cassie Sundquist working are together on mentoring program for hiring new employees.

The main air compressor for the Hatchery has undergone major repair this month. Final repair cost may be over \$2500.00. This equipment was manufactured over seas and locating all of the repair parts has been a real challenge. Replacement cost of this air compressor is approximately \$10,000.00. We are making the necessary repairs to extend the life of the equipment to prevent an expensive replacement cost.