

MAGIC VALLEY HATCHERY

Monthly Narrative Report

August 2008

Rick Lowell

BROODYEAR 2008 PRODUCTION

Current inventory of fingerlings is 763,304 Dworshak stock, 385,606 Pahsimeroi Stock, 504,774 Sawtooth Stock, 81,866 East Fork Natural Stock, and 61,630 USB stock. Our combined average size is 109.9 fish per pound. Feed conversion to date is approximately 0.80.

Our second round of fish marking commenced on August 25th and was completed on August 27th. A total of 256,639 Sawtooth A's, 385,606 Pahsimeroi A's, were adipose clipped including 160,645 CWT. Two MATTS trailers were used with double shifts and averaged over 200,000 per day (two trailers two shifts per day).

As a result of decreasing egg requests by approximately 5% and better than predicted survival estimates, we should have about 70K surplus steelhead fingerlings available for Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir. We have pared down our surplus by approximately 150K from last year.

FISH HEALTH

Mortalities in the indoor vats decreased to single digits toward the end of August. We have observed elevated mortalities in outside raceways West 3 and East 8. Although not at epizootic proportions, pathology personnel are scheduled to examine these fish early in September. From a big picture perspective, overall fish health has been fairly good.

SUMMARY

Hatchery personnel completed the following projects and activities during August:

- A local contractor sprayed for mosquitoes around the hatchery compound.
- Received and installed replacement stainless steel fire extinguisher cabinets for the vat room.
- Performed miscellaneous landscaping.
- Relocated hatchery directional sign from Pole Line Road to the 2000 Road.
- Our second bio-aide Thomas Hurley returned to school. We will retain him for intermittent weekend work.
- Tom Tighe and Thomas Hurley assisted with Spawning at Rapid River and McCall Hatcheries.
- Rick worked one shift at the Twin Falls County Fair.
- Completed Brandon Filloon's annual evaluation.
- Cleaned out Feed conveyor system and bulk bins
- Received a final copy of plans for the new hatchery irrigation/heat pump/fire suppression system.

UPCOMING PROJECTS/EVENTS

- Continue with miscellaneous landscaping.
- Third round of fish marking scheduled for September 17th.
- Provide personnel the opportunity to assist with spawning at anadromous hatcheries.
- Stock Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir with surplus steelhead fingerlings.

NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL OBSERVATIONS

We have not observed Mudsnailes in any of the hatchery rearing containers.