

## **MAGIC VALLEY HATCHERY**

Monthly Narrative Report

January 2009

Rick Lowell

### **BROODYEAR 2008 PRODUCTION**

Current inventory of pre-smolts is 725,113 Dworshak stock, 380,144 Pahsimeroi Stock, 442,583 Sawtooth Stock, 68,838 East Fork Natural Stock, and 58,184 USB stock. Our combined average size is 9.0 fish per pound. Feed conversion to date is approximately 0.96. Current inventories reflect an additional .5 % reduction to compensate for hidden mortality.

### **BROODYEAR 2008 HAYSPUR PRODUCTION**

After receiving 1,019,037 eyed rainbow triploid eggs from Hayspur hatchery earlier in December, current inventory of Hayspur triploids at the end of the month totals 886,871. Average size is 337.50 fish per pound.

### **FISH HEALTH**

All outside raceways continued with single digit daily mortality during January. We have observed some symptoms of sore-back; however the severity continues to be less than in previous years. Combinations of factors lead to poor feed conversion this month: Having fish scheduled to be off feed to control growth combined with being off feed for PIT tagging, and days off feed due to cold weather preventing operating the traveling bridge influenced growth rates and conversion.

### **SUMMARY**

Hatchery personnel completed the following projects and activities during January:

- Completed all BY 2008 PIT tagging. Rodney Duke's crew arrived on Thursday afternoon January 8<sup>th</sup> and tagged one 2,100 fish group that afternoon. PIT tagging was completed January 11<sup>th</sup> in the A.M. Rodney's crew should be complimented on the smooth and timely process this year.
- Loaned our 4" fish pump and hoses to Niagara Spring Hatchery to assist with their PIT tagging.
- Rick and Tom attended Mike Graham's (past Magic Valley assistant manager) funeral.
- Submitted the annual EPA, Tier Two Homeland Security, and IDWR Water Flow reports.
- Installed one additional dam board in all production raceways to compensate for increasing density.
- Tom Tighe attended Leadership training at CSI.
- Burned the hatchery brush pile.

- A local contractor completed modifying residence A, B, & D basements to enable the installation of downstairs toilets and sinks.
- Rick attended the annual Anadromous Meeting in Boise. Tom Tighe attended the Anadromous Hatchery Manager's break-out session.
- Purchased and installed new range for residence "C".
- Repaired toilet in Hatchery dorm.
- Tom Tighe set up a TIC (Trout in the Classroom) aquarium and coordinated the delivery of Hayspur trout eggs to the St. Edwards Catholic school second grade class.
- All residence carpets and the hatchery dorm furniture were cleaned.
- Contacted Crystal Springs Hatchery to request 4 cfs of water be returned during the first week of February.
- Hatchery flows on January 26<sup>th</sup> were measured at 77.7 cfs. Water Right is 125.59 cfs. **As a reminder, 4 cfs is being diverted to Crystal Springs hatchery.** Therefore, a potential total of 81.7 cfs would be available. 80.0 cfs was measured on r, 28<sup>th</sup> 2008.
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### UPCOMING PROJECTS/EVENTS

- Continue with miscellaneous landscaping.
- Replace hatchery heat pump/irrigations system pumps.
- Tom Tighe attending the next module in leadership training.
- Receive 4cfs from Crystal Springs Hatchery.
- Transfer Hayspur Triploid Rainbows to Hagerman State Hatchery by the end of February.

### NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL OBSERVATIONS

We have not observed Mudsnailes in any of the hatchery rearing containers. Hatchery personnel cleaned and thoroughly inspected the intake canal for Mudsnailes. After several sampling attempts of aquatic vegetation, only three individual snails were observed. No snails were observed on hard or concrete surfaces.