

MAGIC VALLEY HATCHERY

Monthly Narrative Report

March 2010

Rick Lowell

BROODYEAR 2009 PRODUCTION

A total of 1,880,428 eyed eggs have been received for Brood Year 2009. Current inventory of fingerlings after marking is 864,495 Dworshak stock, 524,205 Pahsimeroi Stock, 95,063 USB Stock, and 117,189 Sawtooth Stock. Our combined average size is 5.0 fish per pound. Feed conversion to date is approximately 0.94. Current inventories reflect an additional 0.5 % reduction to compensate for hidden mortality.

FISH HEALTH

Fish health appeared to remain very stable during March. We did not observe any mortality spikes associated with sudden drops in barometric pressure as we have observed in past years.

SUMMARY

Hatchery personnel completed the following projects and activities during March:

- Rick received his annual evaluation.
- Disinfected and prepared incubation room for BY 2010 steelhead eggs.
- A local contractor completed the installation of two new frost-free hydrants on the south side of the raceways.
- Replaced several fluorescent light bulbs in the hatchery office and vat room.
- Repaired traveling bridge feeder #8 and #13.
- Replaced the right rear tire on the electric Cushman.
- Completed small predator fencing project around raceways.
- The contractor that performed the settling pond dredging at Hagerman State Hatchery toured our settling pond system for potential dredging in the future.
- Continued to perform dissolved oxygen and saturation monitoring. Dissolved oxygen was measured above 6.3 below the second deck on the heaviest loaded raceways.
- Took a load of refuse and old appliances to the Buhl Transfer Station.
- Gave Hagerman State Hatchery several old upwelling incubators.
- Thoroughly cleaned the hatchery intake springs.
- Nampa Research personnel performed CWT retention checks.
- Test ran the 8" fish pump.
- Installed trim in residence basements.
- Bureau of Reclamation personnel performed their annual water measurements.

- Pruned hedges around the southeast corner of the hatchery building.
- Mailed 2005, 2006, and 2007 hatchery production data to EPA.
- Annual burning of the hatchery pruning pile.
- Replaced valve in one of the urinals in the men's bathroom.
- Wade Symons assisted Clearsprings hatchery personnel with releasing surplus broodstock at the Filer Ponds and Dierkes Lake.
- Coordinated BY 2010 production planning with Nampa Research personnel.
- Completely cleaned out the old manual ad-clip trailer.
- Recycled old aluminum dam boards and miscellaneous metal from the hatchery bone yard.
- With the assistance of Jerry Chapman, we installed an LHO box in raceway W10B. After a little fine tuning, the LHO was functioning correctly and increased the dissolved oxygen by one to two parts per million.
- Disinfected three fish hauling tankers.
- Hatchery flows on March 29th were measured at 73.1 cfs. Water Right is 125.59 cfs. 77.7 cfs was measured on March, 29th 2009. If Magic Valley hatchery had four cfs from the Crystal Springs Hatchery, we would be at the same flow as the same time last year.
- Applied salt in raceway 9 to control algae.
- Test ran the water chiller.
- Lubricated all the wheel bearings on the traveling bridge.

UPCOMING PROJECTS/EVENTS

- Continue with miscellaneous landscaping.
- Submit annual Tier Two Homeland Security report.
- Complete all preparations for smolt hauling.

NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL OBSERVATIONS

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

