

MAGIC VALLEY HATCHERY

Monthly Narrative Report
September 2008

Rick Lowell

BROODYEAR 2008 PRODUCTION

Current inventory of fingerlings is 735,043 Dworshak stock, 384,882 Pahsimeroi Stock, 448,386 Sawtooth Stock, 70,298 East Fork Natural Stock, and 59,001 USB stock. Our combined average size is 38.8 fish per pound. Feed conversion to date is approximately 0.79.

Our third round of fish marking commenced on September 16th and was completed on the 17th. A total of 32,213 Sawtooth A's, 59,005 Upper Salmon B's, and 70,525 East Fork Naturals were marked.

A total of 19,995 Dworshak B fingerlings (481 pounds @ 41.57/lb) and 32,508 Sawtooth A surplus fingerlings (450 pounds @ 72.24/lb) were stocked into Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir on 9/22/08.

FISH HEALTH

Mortalities in outside raceways (West 3 and East 8) subsided to single digits by the end of September. As expected, we have observed the beginning symptoms of sore-back developing in the larger fish (Dworshak B). We have responded by increasing our feed rate slightly and retaining fish in their respective 50' sections until densities exceed 0.3.

SUMMARY

Hatchery personnel completed the following projects and activities during September:

- Rick and Tom assisted with spawning at Pahsimeroi Hatchery and Rick assisted at Sawtooth Hatchery as well.
- Performed miscellaneous landscaping around residence "C" and settling pond.
- All permanent hatchery personnel received Microsoft 2007 training.
- Received annual state safety inspection on 9/15/08.
- Gave tour to a small - home school group.
- Rick attended a hatchery data base meeting in Nampa on the 23rd, Non-Enforcement personnel enforcement training on the 24th, a PERSI retirement seminar on the 25th, and the USFWS Fish Hatcheries Assessments and Recommendations meeting on the 30th.
- Increased hatchery flows on September 1st to the maximum flow available. (Approx. 87.2 cfs) Water Right is 125.59 cfs. **As a reminder, 4 cfs is being diverted to Crystal Springs hatchery.** Therefore, a potential total of 91.2 cfs would be available. 87.2 cfs was measured on September 26th 2007.

UPCOMING PROJECTS/EVENTS

- Continue with miscellaneous landscaping.
- Clean all residence wood stove chimneys
- Several employees will be taking time off for hunting.

NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL OBSERVATIONS

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