

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
McCALL SUMMER CHINOOK HATCHERY
April 2008 Monthly Narrative
Steve Kammeyer

South Fork Salmon River SU Production

Brood Year 2007

There are 1,026,519 SFSR SU fry being reared in 12 of the indoor early rearing vats. Currently these fish average 405.2 fpp (2.04 inch TL) in size. During April, SFSR SU fry were fed 643.1 pounds of feed resulting in a conversion of 0.73 for the month (0.74 to date). All of the indoor vats being used to rear these fish have been extended to full length by the end of the month. Ending density and flow indices averaged 0.34 and 0.76, respectively. Water temperatures have remained constant at 38 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the month which is unseasonably cold for this time of the year.

	Number	Total Length (inch)	Fish/Pound	Total Mortality		Feed Conversion		Density Index	Flow Index	30-d Length (inch)
				Month	To Date	Month	To Date			
BY07 SFSR SU	1,026,519	2.04	405.2	2,353	1.07%	0.73	0.74	0.34	0.76	0.26
BY07 Johnson Creek SU	89,710	2.20	314.7	82	2.85%	0.83	0.82	0.47	0.43	0.25

Johnson Creek SU Production

Brood Year 2007

Johnson Creek origin summer Chinook fry currently number 89,710 and average 314.7 fpp (2.20 inch TL) in size. A total of 76.4 pounds of feed were fed to these fish during April resulting in a conversion of 0.83 (0.82 to date). Two indoor vats continue to be used for rearing with screens set at ½ length to improve feeding efficiency. Ending density and flow indices averaged 0.47 and 0.43, respectively.

Miscellaneous

- Joel assisted Clearwater FH transporting smolts during the week of April 7th.
- Hatchery personnel, with help from NPT fishery staff, attempted to remove several of the weir panels from the SFSR Trap Bridge on April 14th - due to concerns of debris flowing through the SFSR at high water. However this proved to be problematic, even with relatively low flows, as the panel sections responding to the current would bind up against the bridge. Panels were returned to the bridge, and locked into the open position. It was felt that it would be an even bigger problem to get them back in place with higher flows.
- Hatchery outdoor rearing ponds screens/ boards were removed on April 9th and pressure washing activities took place April 11th – 17th. An alternative disinfection protocol was explored this year using backpack “weed sprayers” to apply a chlorine solution (1,000 ppm active sodium hypochlorite) directly to the pond walls and floor. This was done on April 28th – 29th with positive results. It is felt this method provided an appropriate level of disinfection while greatly reducing the amount of chlorine and neutralizing sodium thiosulfate that was previously being used; likewise greatly reducing the risk of an accidental release of chlorine into the NF Payette River.
- No sign of New Zealand Mud Snail presence was observed during pond cleaning.
- A multi-agency hatchery review team toured the facility on April 17th. The team was provided a brief orientation/ overview of this facility and programs. More in-depth meetings are anticipated at a later date.
- Gene and Steve completed the online defensive driving course during the month.
- Gene has assisted the McCall Regional Fisheries Management staff in monitoring the Breach, and successive water conditions, at Fish Lake during the later part of the month.



SFSR Trap Compound (4/ 14/ 08).



SFSR Ladder (4/ 14/ 08).



SFSR Bridge/ Weir – Panels in “Open” Position (4/ 14/ 08).



Removing Weir Panels from Br (before chain hoist broke)



Breaching Fish Lake Impoundment Dam (4/ 21/ 08).



Breaching Fish Lake Impoundment Dam (4/ 21/ 08).