

State of Idaho
Department of Fish and Game
Sawtooth Fish Hatchery
Stanley, Idaho

Date: November 4, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Rogers
FROM: Sawtooth Hatchery
SUBJECT: Monthly Narrative October 2009

CC: Tom Frew, LSRCP, Doug Munson, Tom Curet, Paul Kline, Brian Leth, Carl Stiefel, John Cassinelli, Mike Peterson, Sam Sharr, Eagle FH, Pahsimeroi FH, Jeff Heindel, Bob Esselman

Fish reared in October on station are as follows:

BY08 Sawtooth spring chinook N=1,866,798 presmolts at 29 fpp and 124mm

BY08 Sockeye N= 99,880 presmolts at 45 fpp and 109 mm

BY08 Sawtooth Spring Chinook have been moved outside into ten large raceways and extended into the A and B sections with shade covers on the A sections removed. All of these marked Chinook were given a three day formalin flush treatment for external mycosis.

BY08 Sockeye Salmon presmolts were planted in Redfish (34,561), Alturas (9,982) and Pettit Lakes (14,987) October 7. The presmolts averaged 70 fish per pound and 3.72 inches in total length. The remaining 99,880 CWT only marked fish (Sawtooth Overwinter Group) were moved outside into four small raceways on October 13. These fish were 53 per pound and 4.22 inches in total length.

Return year 09 Chinook: A total of 3,988 Chinook have been trapped through September 16 the last day of trapping. The total number of marked is 3,540, unmarked 448 released above the weir. Eight lots of 518 females were spawned yielding 2,429,273 green eggs. Eyed egg number totaled 2,282,484 with an average fecundity of 4,830 and an overall eye-up of 94.0%. The Yankee Fork Salmon River Shoshone-Bannock egg box program received 481,717 eyed eggs leaving 1,800,767 eyed eggs for production.

Return year 09 Sockeye: Total trapped was 833 sockeye including 583 at Red Fish Lake Creek trap and 250 at Sawtooth FH trap. The Sawtooth Fish Hatchery trap was shut-down on September 17 while the weir across the Salmon River remained in place until October 15. Sockeye were seined from below the weir at Sawtooth on September 17 and October 9. The Redfish Lake Creek weir was removed on October 21. The last sockeye trapped at Redfish Lake Creek weir was on October 5. Sixteen sockeye were observed in Redfish Lake Creek and Little Redfish Lake on October 19. These sockeye are included in the total count as unknowns returning to Redfish Lake.

Staff activities for October included daily staff meetings occurred discussing the BY 08, 09 Chinook, returning employees and hatchery winterization. Some winterization tasks include putting up snow poles, storage of the mule, setting up BY09 raceways and flows, installing the log boom, and draining of the kids fishing pond. The last work day for Biological aide Megan Moore was October 3. Laura Rose finished work October 30, followed by Tomi Quigly-Baker the next day. Meghan Murphy's last work day was October 25. Physical Fitness Assessments occurred with Lars Alsager, Kevin Yelton and Eric Crawford joining the hatchery crew. Staff members finished the Annual Operations and Maintenance Report and the Steelhead Run Report. Brent Snider edited HGMP reports and attended a fish marking meeting in Boise. Phil Stone fabricated an aluminum gate between the spawn shed and settling pond as well as repairing the first step of the fish ladder.

A fish marking management meeting was held at the hatchery with Dustine Cummings and Travis house from the PSFMC marking crew with Stewart Rosenburger from Idaho Power and John Cassinelli from Nampa Research.

Other Activities

The trap visitor platform was completed. The electric system upgrade to the holding pond crowders and adult pond tailrace grating projects were reviewed and committed on. The visitor center lighting upgrade planning contractor visited the site. Annual service to the generator, front end loader and snow blower occurred in October. The water to the Squaw Pond was turned off with screens and dam boards removed for the winter. The weir was pulled on October 16 seven days after the last sockeye round-up occurred.

A tour was given to the Elaine Richmond family of 17.

There were 130 guests that signed the guest register in October. There were no observations of NZMS.