

2012-2013 Progress Report for  
Nez Perce Tribe Operations & Maintenance Activities

OBJECTIVE 1. Coordinate with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding culture of Imnaha and Lostine spring Chinook salmon.

Task 1.1 Participate in coordination meeting with Lookingglass Hatchery manager and staff regarding planning and implementation of spawning, fertilization, incubation and fish culture procedures involved in culture of Imnaha and Lostine spring Chinook salmon.

During FY13, Nez Perce (NPT) staff participated in Lookingglass Hatchery program specific pre-AOP meetings with ODFW staff at the hatchery, annual co-manager pre-AOP meeting, and AOP meeting. In addition, staff were involved in several within year coordination meetings and activities regarding planning and implementation of the Lostine and Imnaha spring Chinook programs. From one to three NPT employees were involved at over 12 different events. NPT also provided assistance and review of plans to upgrade Imnaha fish handling equipment and for replacement of the Imnaha River weir.

OBJECTIVE 2. Participate in fish culture of Imnaha spring Chinook salmon at Imnaha satellite facility and Imnaha and Lostine spring Chinook salmon at Lookingglass Hatchery in cooperation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Task 2.1 Assist ODFW with installation and removal of the Imnaha satellite weir as need is determined.

ODFW requested assistance with weir installation this year and NPT provided 1 employee during July 2013. ODFW also requested assistance in removal of the weir during September 2013 and NPT provided 1 employee.

Task 2.2 Assist ODFW with handling, sorting, data collection, and injection of adult Chinook salmon trapped at the Imnaha satellite facility as need is determined.

NPT provided one employee consistently, and two during the peak of the run, to support of the increased schedule to work fish from the trap five days per week. This schedule was agreed to between ODFW and NPT staff and is outlined in the 2013 NEO AOP document. Duties included fish handling, sorting, and data collection of adults. In addition, employees also provided transportation of adults back to the fishery in the Imnaha River (72), collected brood to Lookingglass Hatchery (91), out-planted (1) fish for natural spawning in Big Sheep Ck/Lick Ck., and for human consumption (341) for a total of 505 fish transported or

moved. NPT staff also helped maintain the Imnaha weir facility during July, August and September.

Task 2.3 Assist ODFW in handling, sorting, data collection, spawning of Imnaha and Lostine adult Chinook salmon at Lookingglass Hatchery.

NPT staff assisted ODFW in fulfilling the requirements of this task at Lookingglass Hatchery. These efforts resulted in the successful collection of 390,184 Imnaha program eggs and 294,759 Lostine program eggs (BY 2013). This egg take was sufficient to achieve Lostine program goal for smolt releases, but was short of the Imnaha program goal. The Imnaha goal was impacted due to late installation of the weir caused by high water and early return of adult Chinook.

OBJECTIVE 3. Participate in fish culture of resulting egg source for the Imnaha, Lostine, Catherine Creek and Upper Grande Ronde River spring Chinook salmon at Lookingglass Hatchery.

Due to the change in incubation at Lookingglass Hatchery from Heath tray/stacks to primarily Moist Air Incubators, Nez Perce staff was utilized for egg care only for two programs that were in Heath trays.

OBJECTIVE 4. Participate in transport and out-plant of Little Sheep Creek adult Steelhead (excess to program requirements) into Big Sheep Creek as need is determined.

Nez Perce staff provided transport of adult Steelhead to Big Sheep from Little Sheep facility. The period covered March through April for (1) driver and (1) transport truck. A total of 58 (BY 2013) first time trapped adult were transported.

OBJECTIVE 5. Utilize Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery (NPTH) staff and tank trucks to transport and direct release 400,000 spring Chinook smolts from IDFG Clearwater Hatchery to Selway River.

A total of 426,696 spring Chinook smolts at 19.6 fpp from IDFG Clearwater Hatchery were outplanted into the Selway River on March 18 & 19, 2013. Of those, NPTH drivers (3) and trucks (3) transported and released approximately 220,000 fish, or 11,224 pounds.

OBJECTIVE 6. Utilize Fall Chinook Acclimation Project (FCAP) staff and tank trucks to transport and direct release 300,000 spring Chinook parr from Dworshak Hatchery to upper Selway River.

Nez Perce staff transported 340,020 spring Chinook parr @ 85fpp from Dworshak Hatchery to the upper Selway River (Magruder Ranger Station) on June 18, 20, and 25, 2013.