

2013-2014 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 FY14, 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 24 different events. NPT also provided additional 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 early summer 2014. ODFW also requested assistance in removal of the weir during September 2014 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 to support 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 2014 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 (29), collected brood to Lookingglass Hatchery (7), out-planted fish for natural spawning in Big Sheep Ck/Lick Ck. (209), and for human consumption (248) for a total of 493 fish transported or moved. NPT staff also helped maintain the Imnaha weir facility during June, 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 621,831 Imnaha program eggs and 314,769 Lostine program eggs (BY 2014). This egg take was more than sufficient to achieve both Imnaha and Lostine program goals for smolt releases.

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 past years poor survival of eggs at Lookingglass Hatchery it was decided in 2014 to remove Moist Air Incubators and re-install Heath tray/stacks. Nez Perce staff provided egg care for all eggs taken for all 5 programs (Catherine Creek, Upper Grande Ronde, Lookingglass Creek, Imnaha and Lostine) that were at Lookingglass Hatchery. The total number of eggs cared for were 1,707,225.

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 232 (BY 2014) 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 410,025 spring Chinook smolts at 17.0 fpp from IDFG Clearwater Hatchery were outplanted into the Selway River on March 20, 2014. Of those, NPTH drivers (2) and trucks (2) transported and released approximately 76,500 fish, or 4,500 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 384,051 spring Chinook parr @ 92.8 fpp from Dworshak Hatchery to the upper Selway River (Magruder Ranger Station) on September 8, 10 and 15, 2014.