

Monthly Progress Report

DATE: December 31, 2007

TO: ODFW: Guy Chilton/ Fish Division - Scott Patterson / NE Region
LSRCP Office: Chris Starr
Nez Perce Tribe: Johnson - Hesse - Zollman
CTUIR: Boe – McLean – Zimmerman

FROM: Wallowa Hatchery (Hank Ray & Chad Aschenbrenner)

SUBJECT: Monthly Progress Report for December 2007

Fish Culture

Wallowa

Captive Spring Chinook Parr

Current captive parr program summarized below. No stated goal for loss or survival rate.

Stock/Cohort	Number Collected (life stage)	Number On Hand	Mortality Current Month	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
GR/06 – Conventional	168 (eggs)	155	0	Yes
GR/06 - Wild	152 (parr)	151	0	Yes

- The staff has continued daily tank maintenance and photo period adjustment. Hank developed feed schedules and updated the monthly ponded fish reports.
- Feeding schedule changed to every other day for December and will be changed to two days on and 5 days off feed for January.

Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on station.

Wallowa Hatchery Steelhead Adults

- There are currently no adults on station.

Big Canyon

- There are currently no fish on station.

Little Sheep

- There are currently no fish on station.

Fish Health

- All fish on station appear to be in excellent health.
- We received 550 triploid rainbow trout eggs December 18th from Roaring River Hatchery for our annual upper spring and well water test for whirling disease (*M. cerebralis*). Four hundred eggs are being incubated and reared using well water and 150 using the upper spring. Eggs in the well water tank hatched Christmas day. The upper spring water eggs began hatching on the 30th.

Fish Distributions

- No activity to report at this time.

Maintenance

Wallowa

- On the 3rd, warm wind and rain melted the 4" of snow in the Wallowa Valley causing an upset event in Spring Creek. The water raised high enough to flood over the moat wall of the old hatchery/shop building resulting in an accumulation of approximately a foot of water throughout the building. (See attached pictures.) The display fish pond water was switched to the Wallowa River to minimize accumulation of sediment. Sandbags were built-up on the moat wall resulting in gradual drainage after which the building was cleaned

using garden hoses and pressure washers. The captive brood room was also cleaned and disinfected.

- Most of the acclimation pond screens were removed due to broken welds. Welding repairs are nearly concluded and screens should be replaced in acclimation ponds early next month.
- The debris screen in the sand trap for ponds 6-8 was replaced. The old frame was constructed of wood which had become water damaged and weak. The new frame is constructed of aluminum for light weight and durability.

Big Canyon

- No activity to report at this time.

Little Sheep

- No activity to report at this time.

NPDES Waste Discharge Permit Monitoring

- December was a month of highest production. Water, flow, and pH samples were collected and processed as required.
- Water samples were taken during the upset at our Spring Creek intake to establish a defense against any violation of the permit during subsequent normal and cleaning water sampling.
- The chemical use log was updated as required.

Public Outreach

- Will Voss, an Enterprise high school student, is participating with the Youth Transition Program and is interning for an hour in the mornings Monday -Thursday.
- Winter weather has set in stemming the flow of visitors to a mere trickle.

Miscellaneous

- Chad finished the purchasing process of replacing the JD 755 lawn tractor. The new JD 2520 lawn tractor was delivered by Fisher Implement Co. of Gresham on December 20th.
- The monthly safety meeting was performed mid month before Jeremy (our safety officer) left on vacation for warmer weather.
- Chad prepared updates to the Annual Operation Plan however was unable to attend the Pre-AOP meeting on the 18th due to staff shortages.
- Chad attended the NWFCC December 4th – 6th. He also presented a poster for the Wallowa Hatchery portion of the spring Chinook Captive Brood program at the conference.
- Jeremy has completed scheduling hosts for the 2008 season. This year a host has been scheduled for March in anticipation of personnel issues.
- Chad and Jeremy helped the Enterprise District wildlife employees capture 78 wild turkeys from a wintering area near Wallowa on the 13th. The birds were relocated to central Oregon.

Personnel Status

- Hank Ray interviewed at Cole Rivers Hatchery and Rock Creek Hatchery on the 18th.
- The hatchery manager position is currently open. The close date for this position is January 4, 2008.

