

# Monthly Progress Report

**DATE:** August 7, 2008

**TO:** ODFW: Guy Chilton/ Fish Division - Scott Patterson / NE Region – Bruce Eddy  
– Brad Smith

**LSRCP Office:** Chris Starr

**Nez Perce Tribe:** Johnson - Hesse - Zollman

**CTUIR:** Boe – McLean – Zimmerman

**FROM:** Wallowa Hatchery (Chad Aschenbrenner)

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Progress Report for July 2008

## 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	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
GR/07 - Conventional	159 (parr)	157	0	0	150	105%	120	Yes

- The staff has continued daily feeding and tank maintenance. Chad developed feed schedules, and projected growth rates.
- The fish appear to be in great health and are on track to meet the size goal for this coming spring transfer to Bonneville.
- The tanks are prepared for the upcoming (mid August) collections of wild parr from the upper Grande Ronde River. There has been concern regarding the number of parr in the river as no redds were observed during the spawning ground surveys last year.

### Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on site.

### 7207 Rainbow Trout

- The trout to be released in high mountain lakes early in August are eating very well. They were split into three ponds during the month to prevent fin nipping and overcrowding.
- The release date of these fish has been changed to August 5<sup>th</sup> as some of the high mountain lakes are still covered in ice.

Stock/Cohort	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
7207 trout	42,000	0	40,000	105%	175	Yes

#### Wallowa Hatchery Steelhead Adults

- There are currently no adults on site. We have received updates from Mike Flesher regarding PIT tagged steelhead on their way upstream as they move past the Columbia River Dams.

#### Imnaha River Spring Chinook Salmon

- We have been holding excess salmon for Lookingglass Hatchery which will be given to the Nez Perce Tribe for tribal subsistence. So far about 440 fish have been killed and given away. This will continue into August.

### **Big Canyon**

#### Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on site.

#### Steelhead Adults

- There are currently no adults on site.

### **Little Sheep**

#### Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on site.

#### Steelhead Adults

1. There are currently 50 adults for stream enrichment still in the freezer pending whirling disease testing results.
2. Results are in for the nutrient enrichment fish. 17 of the 65 fish analyzed came back with negative results and will be used for enrichment later this summer.
3. No fish were distributed from this facility into any other water bodies than those listed above, nor were any distributed to food banks or schools.

### **Fish Health**

- No fish health activities occurred during the month.

## **Fish Distributions**

- No fish distributions occurred during the month.

## **Maintenance**

### **Wallowa**

- The acclimation ponds were cleaned and re-assembled in preparation for the next season.
- The weed patch along the west edge of the acclimation pond was dug out and prepared for base rock and asphalt. The asphalt is scheduled for mid August. This project will clean up the acclimation area and aid in fish feeding.
- The grounds are being mowed and watered by our hosts, Mike and Barb Thiessen. Their help has been greatly appreciated and will be missed. We have no one scheduled to host during August.
- Kitchen and bathroom fans were installed in the Technicians house. It is hard to believe that there have never been fans installed in these areas before now. It goes to show that we can always find projects to improve our facilities!
- The vehicles were all serviced during the month.

### **Big Canyon**

- The acclimation ponds and trap were re-assembled in preparation for the next season.
- The trees around the facility were trimmed up and the tall grass was mowed to clean up the area and remove a possible fire hazard.
- Adam and Chase, working out of the NE Region wolf survey project, continue to reside at the bunk house.

### **Little Sheep**

- The acclimation ponds, holding ponds, fish trap, and fish ladder were pressure washed. The dam boards in the acclimation pond were all removed and will be replaced with new boards next February.
- Weeds and grasses in the gravel area around the facility were either pulled or mowed. The ditch along the highway outside of the compound fence was also cut to clean up the area and remove a fire hazard.
- The facility was mowed multiple times.
- The log at the intake which diverts large debris has become a “sinker.” It was removed and will be replaced in the near future.

### **NPDES Waste Discharge Permit Monitoring**

- July was not a month of highest production. Water, flow, and pH samples were not required.
- The daily chemical use log was updated onto our monthly chemical use log as required.

### **Public Outreach**

- A few visitors have toured the hatchery during the month. The remaining 300 trout from the whirling disease test have been moved to an outside pond for visitors to view and feed. Our other display pond is quite an attraction due to the size of the trout, several in the 5 to 7 pound range.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Water at the Clear Creek intake continues to fluctuate greatly necessitating regular visits including cleanings and dam board adjustments.
- Chad attended a Fundamentals of Fish Health Class on the 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> at Bonneville Hatchery.
- The Hatchery Scientific Review Group toured all 3 of our facilities on the 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Ron and Chad attended the NE Region meeting in La Grande on the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Roxy Burns and Jon Thorpe both from the Salem office visited Wallowa Hatchery during the month.

### **Personnel Status**

- Mike and Barb Thiessen completed their hosting commitment at the end of the month. We enjoyed their company very much and wish them well in their future journeys.
- Jeremy continues his rotation with Lookingglass Hatchery and the Imnaha Acclimation facility working as a relief technician throughout the summer.
- Hank Ray, our previous Captive Brood seasonal, called and informed us that he has accepted a position at Round Butte Hatchery. Work has begun to fill this vacant position. The position is scheduled to begin mid August, however it is unlikely that we will have it filled by then.