

WALLOWA HATCHERY
ANNUAL STATUS REPORT

01 October 1994 -- 30 September 1995

INTRODUCTION NARRATIVE

OPERATIONS:

Wallowa Hatchery is operated as a part of the Lower Snake River Compensation Program. Mitigation goals for Wallowa Hatchery are to collect, incubate and transfer 2,200,000 eyed Steelhead eggs, 1,700,000 Wallowa stock and 500,000 Imnaha stock, to Irrigon Hatchery. Another part of the program is to acclimate 1,267,500 Steelhead smolts at Wallowa and its two satellite facilities. The two satellite stations, Big Canyon (Wallowa System) and Little Sheep (Imnaha System), are used for adult trapping, spawning and smolt acclimation.

Hatchery production goals were a little below target levels this year, if you use our eyed egg inventory numbers. Irrigon Hatchery, came up with a fin clip inventory that was very close to our target goals. The Wallowa stock program had 1,381,350 (5695) eyed Steelhead eggs transferred to Irrigon Hatchery. Imnaha stock had 310,330 (2995) eyed Steelhead eggs transferred to Irrigon Hatchery. Lyons Ferry Hatchery did not receive any eggs from us this year. The green egg loss this year was 13.8% for the Wallowa stock and 9.2% for the Imnaha stock. The historical green egg loss for both these stocks has been averaging around 20%.

A total of 657,433 (5694) Steelhead smolts from Irrigon Hatchery were acclimated and released from Wallowa. Big Canyon acclimated and released 379,152 (2993) Steelhead smolts from Irrigon Hatchery. Little Sheep acclimated and released 230,882 Steelhead smolts from Irrigon Hatchery.

Wallowa Hatchery also rears legal rainbow for Northeast Oregon streams and lakes. This activity is funded by State of Oregon moneys. The hatchery liberated 106,813 Rainbow Trout weighing (35,229 lb.). The Kokanee program has been discontinued at the hatchery.

The Lyons Ferry/ Cottonwood steelhead program had enough fish return to their facility this past year, they were able to supply us with 108 male and 140 female steelhead to help us meet our program needs

Adult Steelhead returns to Wallowa Hatchery were 218 males and 100 females, approximately 47 % less fish than the 1994 returns. Returns to Big Canyon were 168 males and 212 females approximately 17 % less fish than the 1994 returns. Returns to Little Sheep were 178 males and 117 females, up 34 % from 1994, although the number of females was 22 fish less than 1994.

MAINTENANCE:

Major projects accomplished by the hatchery crew included:

All ADA deficiencies were corrected by January 1995.

Spent a good deal of time and money last winter correcting safety deficiencies that were identified by the ODFW safety officer on a courtesy inspection.

An oil containment slab and wood fence were put in behind the large garage across the street from the hatchery. This project was designed to contain any recycled oil that may spill and to conceal the 55 gallon drums that contain the oil to be recycled.

Replaced a crumbling concrete front porch at the manager's house.

Constructed a large work bench and welding table for the shop, (screen's department took theirs when they moved out of our shop).

Modified the plumbing to the hatch house so that we could manipulate the water flows faster, easier and safer.

Used a backhoe to clean out our upper spring, that supplies water to hatch house (this project has not been done in at least 15 years) and pruned the trees around it.

Dug out the old Spring Creek fish ladder, that had filled up with several years of accumulated rock.

The hatchery grounds were all fertilized and sprayed for weeds.

Prepared the ground and planted new grass around the garage across from the hatchery, as well as wildflowers along the roadside. This project really added a lot to the overall look of the facility.

Installed new metal double doors at the Wallowa intake building, to help prevent the possibility of vandalism.

A new rotating screen was installed at the lower Spring Creek intake.

New rubber seals, a stainless-steel chain and new gears were installed on the rotating screen Wallowa intake. These renovations were installed to ensure that the screen is fish proof and that there would be little chance of a mechanical breakdown during the season.

Fabricated a tower for the new lower ponds alarm system and antenna.

MAINTENANCE CONTINUED:

Fabricated some new dam board slots at the lower Spring Creek intake, to enable us to regulate the flows during high water and keep more debris out of the lower ponds.

Installed new static septic system for the hatchery host-site. The installation of the septic system in addition to the site modifications we made, should make the hatchery more attractive to potential hatchery hosts.

We installed replacement windows in the two hatchery residences. Final trim work and paint will have to wait until we have better weather and free time.

MAINTENANCE CONTRACTED:

- Satellite systems were installed at Big Canyon and Little Sheep (these systems are fix systems and were about one half the cost of a large movable system that was originally budgeted for).
- Various electrical repairs, upgrades and safety corrections were carried out by a local electrical firm throughout the year.
- Repair Big Canyon domestic well.
- Dump truck repaired on numerous occasions.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS:

- There were no major construction projects started during fiscal year 1995.

MAJOR PURCHASES:

Flammable storage cabinet and table saw guard	\$ 816.00
Two televisions for Little Sheep & Big Canyon	\$ 460.00
Alarm systems for both water sources at Wallowa	\$4,425.00
Septic system (hatchery host site)	\$ 895.00
Truck bed liners for (F250 & Ranger pickups)	\$ 348.00
Studded snow tires and rims for (F250 & Ranger pickups)	\$1,357.00
Egg picking trough lights and spawning room pump	\$ 643.00
Dump truck tires	\$1,542.00
Respirators and filter cartridges	\$ 462.00
ADA expenditures	\$1,651.00

PERSONNEL:

Kerry Bennett and Ken Spidell both returned as seasonal Tech 2's to operate the satellite facilities at Big Canyon and Little Sheep. Two seasonal Tech 1 positions were filled by Brian Cavanaugh, Terry Blessing. Two local high school students were hired to work here during the summer as part of the Oregon YCC program.

PRESENT PERSONNEL:

Greg Davis	Fish & Wildlife Manager-2
Bobby Jones	Fish & Wildlife Technician-2
Mike Parrish	Fish & Wildlife Technician-1
Brian Cavanaugh	Fish & Wildlife Technician-1 seasonal
Rosemary Peterson	Office Coordinator