

WALLOWA HATCHERY ANNUAL REPORT 2002

INTRODUCTION

Location

Wallowa Hatchery is located in northeast Oregon, one mile west of Enterprise. The hatchery is adjacent to Spring Creek, one mile upstream from the confluence of Spring Creek and the Wallowa River. Five rivers comprise the 613 river miles to the ocean: Spring Creek, Wallowa, Grande Ronde, Snake and Columbia Rivers. Two satellite stations, Big Canyon (Wallowa system) 30 miles west of the hatchery and Little Sheep (Imnaha system) 30 miles east of the hatchery, are used for adult trapping, spawning and smolt acclimation.

OBJECTIVES

Mitigation Goals

Wallowa Hatchery is operated as part of the Lower Snake River Compensation Program. Mitigation goals include, collecting 1,100,000 (green) Wallowa stock (56) summer steelhead eggs and 449,400 (green) Imnaha stock (29) summer steelhead eggs. The current smolt release goal for the Wallowa stock is 870,000 smolts. The Imnaha stock goal is 330,000 smolts, 230,000 to Little Sheep (acclimated) and 100,000 to Big Sheep (direct steam).

SUMMER STEELHEAD

Adult Returns

Record numbers of adult summer steelhead returned to all three facilities during the 2002 season. The stock designations for adults collected this past season were, Wallowa and Big Canyon (5602) and Little Sheep/Imnaha (2902).

The Wallowa facility collected 2951 hatchery origin adults (1471 males, 1480 females), up from 1262 returning in 2001. We also collected 7 males and 3 females of natural origin. These adults were transported back to the Wallowa River and released.

A total of 2736 hatchery adults (1145 males, 1591 females) returned to the Big Canyon facility, tripling the 862 captured in 2001. Natural adults collected and passed upstream numbered 89 males and 120 females, for a total of 209, up from 71 in 2001.

The Little Sheep facility collected 3271 hatchery adults (1261 males, 2010 females), substantially more than last years total of 1227. Natural adults captured totaled 203 (62 males, 141 females) up from 127 in 2001.

Egg Production - Wallowa Stock (5602) Summer Steelhead

There were 1,331,551 Wallowa stock eggs taken during the 2002-spawning season. We transferred 980,000-eyed eggs to Irrigon Hatchery, with an egg loss of 8.7%, down from last year's 13.5%. Of the total egg take, 68,586 were used in an experiment and later destroyed and 171,180 eggs were program excess.

Egg Production - Imnaha Stock (2902) Summer Steelhead

A total of 514,670 Imnaha stock eggs were taken at Little Sheep during the 2002 season. We shipped 425,475-eyed eggs to Irrigon, with a 17.3% egg loss for the season, down from last year's 18.8%.

Smolt Acclimation Summer Steelhead

The Wallowa facility acclimated and released 560,633 Wallowa stock (5601) smolts. Big Canyon released 271,285 (5601) acclimated smolts. Volitional releases produced 10,450 smolts from Wallowa and 1,441 smolts from Big Canyon that were released into Kinney Lake due to their potential high risk to residualize.

Little Sheep acclimated and released a total of 195,575 Imnaha stock (2901) smolts.

Summer steelhead acclimated and released from the above facilities were reared at Irrigon Hatchery.

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

There were no capital construction projects at Wallowa Hatchery or its satellite facilities during the report period.

MAJOR PROJECTS ACCOMPLISHED BY ODFW PERSONNEL

Wallowa Facility

The staff converted most of our egg incubators from three stacks of four trays, to one stack of twelve trays. This reduces the amount of formalin needed to treat eggs and gives us additional flexibility in our water use.

More than three months of labor went into preparing and painting the interior and exterior of the old hatchery building during this report period. We initiated the renovation projects due to the possible move of the early rearing portion of the Chinook Captive Brood program from Lookingglass Hatchery to Wallowa.

Our crew, in conjunction with the pathology staff has been conducting a disease and water quality test of our Upper Spring water since May 2002. To date, there are no disease or water quality issues that would prevent the program from being move to Wallowa.

A good deal of time and money was expended correcting safety deficiencies identified in the LSRCP safety inspection (October 2001), as well as implementing and refining our LSRCP inspection program.

Big Canyon Facility

There were no major construction projects at Big Canyon during the report period.

Little Sheep Facility

There were no major construction projects at Little Sheep during the report period.

MAINTENANCE PROJECTS ACCOMPLISHED BY CONTRACTORS

Wallowa Hatchery Complex

As part of the UST removal project, the underground fuel tank that supplies fuel to our backup generator was removed and replace with an above ground tank.

A new underground 4" waterline was installed from the Lower Spring to the mechanical building. This enables us to have another source of pathogen free water for use in egg incubation.

The crew and a couple of local contractors replaced the damaged and leaking section of metal roof on the old hatchery building. This was necessary to further protect the building's integrity for future use.

Big Canyon Facility

Two above ground fuel tanks were installed to supply fuel for heating and the back-up generator. The underground tank was drained and removed completing the UST project.

Little Sheep Facility

There were no major contracted services at the Little Sheep facility during the reporting period.

MAJOR PURCHASES

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| Metal roofing material for old hatchery building | \$2708 |
| Siding for old hatchery building | \$842 |
| Primer for old hatchery building | \$610 |
| Safety items from LSRCP inspection (WA, LI, BI) | \$5878 |
| Other safety related equipment and supplies | \$5230 |
| Shop equipment- Saws, generator, elec. Hoist | \$4515 |
| DEQ permits for WA, LI, BI | \$999 |
| Steelhead feed | \$9405 |
| Snow plow for F250 pickup | \$4339 |
| Three compartment lib tank | \$22,021 |

MAJOR REPAIRS

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| Wallowa waterline repair | \$1035 |
| Lower Spring pipeline modification | \$9401 |
| Alarm system at acclimation pond | \$767 |
| Electrical repairs for irrigation pumps | \$838 |
| Hoist repairs for LI and BI | \$4426 |
| HVAC maintenance | \$637 |
| Installation of metal roofing on old hatchery bldg. | \$4500 |
| Backhoe repairs | \$3128 |
| Modification and installation of tilt bed on new lib truck | \$8541 |