

INTRODUCTION

LOCATION

Irrigon Hatchery is located in Morrow County, Oregon, approximately 279.4 miles upstream from the mouth of the Columbia River. There are no satellite facilities associated with this hatchery.

OBJECTIVES

Mitigation Goals

Irrigon Hatchery is part of the Lower Snake River Compensation Program (LSRCP) and has been in operation since 1985. The annual production goal is to rear 1.68 million steelhead smolts for release into the Grande Ronde and Imnaha River systems. To meet LSRCP goals, Irrigon Hatchery receives eyed steelhead eggs from Wallowa Hatchery and rears them to release or acclimation. Non LSRCP fish reared in fiscal year 1996 include legal sized rainbow trout.

STEELHEAD

Imnaha Stock

Brood Year 1996: Production was completed on April 18, 1997, with the release of 328,523 Imnaha (2996) steelhead smolts. All smolts had adipose fins removed. In addition, 55,000 Imnaha (2996) steelhead smolts were coded wire tagged and identified with a left ventral clip. The 108,675 Imnaha (2996) steelhead excess to production goals were destroyed on November 7, 1996.

Brood Year 1997: In March, April, and May, 1997, the hatchery received 438,300 Imnaha stock (2997) eyed eggs from Wallowa Hatchery. To maintain a 5% minimum wild fish ratio in the brood stock, 313,218 were culled and destroyed. The 122,297 resulting fingerlings were on hand September 30, 1997.

Wallowa Stock

Brood Year 1996: Rearing was completed on April 25, 1997, with the release of 1,384,364 Wallowa stock (5696) steelhead smolts. All smolts had adipose fins removed. In addition 214,000 Wallowa stock (5696) smolts were coded wire tagged and left ventral clipped. The 220,902 Wallowa (5696) steelhead excess to production goals were destroyed on November 7, 1996.

Brood Year 1997: Production began with the transfer of 2,207,900 eyed Wallowa stock (5697) steelhead eggs from Wallowa Hatchery in the spring of 1997. Of these, 429,562 Wallowa (5697) eggs excess to program needs were culled and destroyed. Steelhead on hand September 30, 1997 numbered 1,670,591.

CHINOOK

Rapid River Stock

For the second year, Irrigon Hatchery has been incubating and early rearing Rapid River stock (85) spring chinook eggs.

Brood Year 1996: Initial rearing of Rapid River stock (8596) spring chinook was completed with the transfer of 367,188 fingerlings to Lookingglass Hatchery on April 15, 1997.

Brood Year 1997: Irrigon Hatchery began incubating 400,000 Rapid River stock (8597) spring chinook green eggs received from Wallowa Hatchery in August and September of 1997.

Rainbow Trout

During the reporting period, Irrigon Hatchery received 71,668 legal rainbow trout from Fall River Hatchery and 5,503 legal rainbow trout from Wizard Falls Hatchery. Of the 77,171 total legal rainbows received, 73,218 were stocked.

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

No capital construction projects were completed at Irrigon Hatchery in fiscal year 1997.

Contractor pulled #1 and #3 pumps in Rainey collector #1, repaired and reset pumps.

Oxygen supplementation system went on line in December of 1996. Successful operation of the LOX system gave us acceptable dissolved oxygen levels to keep production until late February before starting transfer to acclimation sites.

Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge completed the hookup of the refuge supply line. They are now using a portion of the hatchery discharge water to create wetlands on the refuge.

Hatchery host sites are being developed. Water, power and septic is available with more work on site preparation continuing.

Replaced one heat pump unit in hatchery building.

Steps were built and installed by maintenance personnel to replace ladders in both pump station caissons.

The crew removed the deteriorated top panels of the predator protection system and replaced with new nylon netting on all the ponds.

Removal of both water cooled cold storage units is complete. Units are not repairable. One replacement unit is on order.

MAJOR PURCHASES

Computer and software	\$3,000.00
Alarm System Cable Concentrators	5,300.00
Cold Storage Unit	17,800.00
Bird Predation Netting	3,200.00
Pump Repair	2,250.00
Feeder Air Cylinders	1,150.00
Total	32,700.00