

# Monthly Progress Report

**DATE:** December 31, 2008

**TO:** ODFW: Guy Chilton/ Fish Division - Scott Patterson / NE Region – Bruce Eddy  
 – Brad Smith  
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**FROM:** Wallowa Hatchery - Jeremy Sommer

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Progress Report for December 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 (fry)	150	0	0	150	100%	37	Yes
GR/07- Conventional (LG)	150(parr)	150	0	0	150	100%	23	Yes

\*LG is being used in this report to designate fish received from Lookingglass Hatchery to replace the 150 parr which normally would be collected from the Grande Ronde River. Parr collection from the Grande Ronde River has been unsuccessful thus far.

- The staff has continued daily feeding, photo period adjustments and tank maintenance. Chad developed feed schedules, and projected growth rates taking into account new inventory data.
- The captive fish are now on an every other day feeding schedule. They will be switched to the winter 3 day on, 4 day off schedule on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- There are plans to make another attempt at locating wild Chinook parr on the Upper Grande Ronde in the future.

### Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on site.

### Wallowa Hatchery Steelhead Adults

- There are currently no adults on site. Fish have been reported to have been caught throughout the Wallowa system.

### 72T07 Rainbow Trout

The production goal for these fish is 40,000 fish at 3/lb to be released into Wallowa County lakes and ponds from April through August 2009; However, we did not receive enough fish to reach this goal.

Stock/Cohort	Number received (life stage)	Number On Hand	Cumulative Transfers and liberations	Mortality Current Month	Production Goal	% of Goal	Size	Meeting Goal? (Yes or No)
72 T 07 RBT	19782 (parr)	37758	0	314	40,000		6.4	yes
72 T 07 RBT (Trophy)	319 (1/2 pound)	311	0	3	none		1.2	yes

- 18360 fish were received from Irrigon hatchery on December 10<sup>th</sup>. These fish were ponded into ponds 7 and 8 so they may be grown at different feed rates.

### **Big Canyon**

#### Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on site.

#### Steelhead Adults

- There are currently no adults on site. Adults have been seen in the vicinity of the collection facility.

### **Little Sheep**

#### Summer Steelhead Smolts

- There are currently no smolts on site.

#### Steelhead Adults

- There are currently no adults on site. Adult steelhead have been reported to have been caught throughout the first several miles of the Imnaha River.

### **Fish Health**

- The captive fish continue to show excellent appearance and activity levels.
- In general, the trout appear to be in pretty descent condition. Mortality has maintained at a steady low number. Many of moribund fish exhibit the same

behaviors and deformities. Mortality is collected monthly and sent to Sam in pathology for processing and analysis.

- Show pond trout are continuing to mature and are undergoing annual maturation related loss. The overall health of these fish thus far appears to be much better than past years. We plan to strip eggs later in February or March.
- Whirling disease test fish were received as eggs. Despite the seemingly frozen state that these trout eggs were received as, they have hatched with minimal mortality.

### **Fish Distributions**

- 18360 (72T07) RBT were received from Irrigon hatchery on December 10th.
- 500 eyed trout eggs were received from Roaring River Hatchery on December 17<sup>th</sup>. These eggs will be reared in order to confirm that the upper spring is still pathogen free.

### **Maintenance**

#### **Wallowa**

- We are trying to resuscitate the old fish pump. Chad started taking the pump apart and evaluating it for problems which will be addressed in the coming month.
- Jeremy built a new gate for the fence on residence #2 completing modifications following house siding.
- Miller plumbing was here to repair a leaky pipe in the bathroom wall in residence #2. A pressure change in the city water line is the suspected culprit. Jeremy replaced the drywall, textured and repainted completing repairs to the bathroom.
- Winterization of the Wallowa spawning room was completed.
- Bill Barnes inspected our generators at all three facilities and trained Jeremy on the particulars of each. A leaky radiator was removed and rebuilt, hoses were replaced, oil was changed and filters replaced. Subsequently, another oil leak was found and repaired. Much thanks to Bill for all the work.
- We recycled a barrel of used oil and replaced the oil barrel.
- Conditions were just right for us to light off our burn pile.
- We had 16 snow days this month, so much time was dedicated to snow removal.

## **Big Canyon**

- Ron and Chad concentrated a lot of time towards the fabrication of a fish lift for Big Canyon and subsequent modifications to the hoist and shelter. We are constructing a fish lift to address a future increase in adult returns to this facility in conjunction with the use of the SI-2 fish stunner and an anesthetic tank. The hoist was modified to allow 360 degree movement and the shelter roof was cut to allow hoist access. An aluminum fish box was modified with two fish gates, an aluminum floor, and casters. Two rails were built for the fish box casters to roll in. There are a few more steps to address, but work is progressing well and will be completed in January.

## **Little Sheep**

- There are no activities to report at this time.

## **NPDES Waste Discharge Permit Monitoring**

- December was a month of highest production. Water, flow, and pH samples were collected as required.
- The daily chemical use log was updated onto our monthly chemical use log as required.

## **Public Outreach**

- The snow has kept the flow of visitors to a mere trickle this month.

## **Miscellaneous**

- Busy Bee was here this month for annual carpet cleanings.
- The quarterly safety inspection was completed.
- New safety regulations have been researched and are being addressed.
- Jeremy and Shari Beals spent a descent amount of time hammering out issues with stock numbers for the captive brood fish at Wallowa Hatchery. Several years of MPR's were changed and procedures were written up to eliminate the problem in the future.
- 5,984 pounds of feed were received from Bio-Oregon this month.

## **Personnel Status**

- Ron attended the AOP meeting in La Grande this month.
- Jeremy attended the North West Fish Culture Conference in Spokane on December 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>.

- Interviews were held on the 15<sup>th</sup> for the long vacant captive brood position. Patrick Naas has accepted the position and we look forward to him joining us on January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Our seasonal steelhead positions were all confirmed for 2009. Steve Deal, Suzette Bonet, and Chuck Stelling will all be returning. We are excited to have a great crew returning for the busy season.