

**Monthly Activity Narrative**  
Hotchkiss National Fish Hatchery (HNFH)  
December 2019

**Meetings/Training/Events:**

- After a 27 year career with the USFWS, Hotchkiss NFH Assistant Manager, David Oviedo decided to retire, 12/31/2019. He will be living in hatchery quarters until his wife is done with this school year. We wish him luck in his retirement.



**Mitigation/Recreational Fish Production:**

- December we received:  
Brown trout eggs from Saratoga NFH, WY  
Rainbow trout, Hofer x Harrison strain, from Crystal River Hatchery, CO  
Rainbow trout, Arlee strain, from Ennis, MT.

The below table shows fish eggs received at Hotchkiss NFH during the month of December.

RBT	HxH-19	108,047			
RBT	ARD-19	103,724			
BNT	PRD-BNT-19	128,616			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>340,387</b>			

RBT= Rainbow Trout; FLD= Fish Lake Domestic, SSD= Shasta Domestic, ARD=Arlee Domestic, HxH= Hofer x Harrison (Colorado Strain), and BNT= Brown Trout; PRD=Plymouth Rock Domestic. ENN- Ennis NFH, and WSS= White Sulphur Springs NFH.

Below table shows fish currently on station at the end of December

RBT	FLD-19	131,718	15,140	9.2	6.77
RBT	SSD-WSS-19	130,808	18,476	8.7	6.62
	<b>Total</b>	<b>262,526</b>	<b>33,616</b>		

- After the eggs hatched and buttoned up, Bio Tech's Giordullo and Gaub were busy sorting through the mass that accumulates on the bottom of the tank from unhatched eggs and other matter. These fry look very good with  $\frac{3}{4}$  of them started on feed.

### Fish Health:

- Outside raceway fish were doing funny things with just the FLD rainbow trout strain showing high mortality. We sent in samples to Fish Health Center and the fish tested positive for furunculosis (*Aeromonas salmonicida*). Earlier in November, we had cleaned and disinfected C, D, & E-bank raceways headbox to tailbox including the pipeline that goes to E-bank from D-bank, prior to placing fish in them. We were disappointed that furunculosis was still there. We will have to feed medicated feed to the FLD's for a 10 day treatment and hopefully that will take care of the furunculosis. On a good note we have SSD stain rainbow in half of the banks C through E and they appear to be less susceptible to furunculosis with morts in single digits to zero per day. I'm hoping this can be the rainbow trout strain we can/should rear from here on out.

### Hatchery Maintenance

- Dec 3- Quarters #4 water heater went out and was replaced by Larry Connally from Great Western Plumbing and Heating.
- Dec 5-13: Project Leader Eaton replaced the cinder blocks that were broke out to find a water leak in the breakroom restroom. Eaton painted the restroom walls and replaced the water faucet. He also replaced the faucet in the adjacent lab room. Both faucets were corroded with hard water deposits making water leak continually.

- Additionally the three lab florescent light fixtures were replaced with new LED lights fixtures by Eaton. The ballast went out on two florescent fixtures so it was decided to replace all three florescent fixtures with a more energy efficient fixtures.