

Monthly Activity Narrative
Hotchkiss National Fish Hatchery
 July 2019

Meetings/Training/Events:

- July - Project Leader (PL) Eaton had a conference call with Stantec Engineer Bill Cutting and Regional Engineer Michael O’shea for the 95% engineer drawings of the hatchery’s sand settling basin reconfigure. Once this is approved we will be on go for next year to reconfigure and construct the sand settling basin.

Outreach/Visitors:

- July 26- PL Eaton gave a presentation at a high school teacher workshop in Delta, CO. Fifteen local teachers attended the workshop entitled *WILD About Natural Resource Careers*. Eaton talked about how he became interested in natural resource as a career and what Hotchkiss NFH currently does for Southern Colorado.

Mitigation/Recreational Fish Production:

- Hotchkiss NFH has been very busy delivering trout this month. Total delivered was 229,403 rainbow and brown trout to Western Colorado Reservoirs and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

Below chart shows fish delivered during the month of July.

Species	Strain	Number	Weight	Size/in	Water Body
BNT	PRD-18	82,608	2,066	4	Animas-Southern Ute Tribe
RBT	FLD-18-2	12,053	4,821	10	Animas-Southern Ute Tribe
BNT	PRD-18	24,960	780	4	Animas- CPW
RBT	FLD-18-2	4080	1632	10	Crawford Reservoir
RBT	FLD-18-3	24,637	8,525	10	McPhee Reservoir
RBT	SSD-19	35,398	1,632	5	Blue Mesa- Surplus
RBT	FLD-19	45,667	402	3	Blue Mesa- Surplus
	Total	229,403	19,858		

Fish Health:

- The Hofer x Harrison (HxH) rainbow trout strain is experiencing higher mortality than non-Hofer strain. We sent fish samples to Bozeman Fish Health Center (BFHC) to see if it was furunculosis like last year. Good news it was not furunc, however BFHC could not determine the cause of the elevated mortality. This die off has happened for several years in the past and seems to effect the HxH mainly during the summer months. This is part

of the reason why we are trying to convince CPW to change rainbow strain to a more hatchery/reservoir friendly strain.

Hatchery Maintenance

Tree cutting



Stump Grinder



Old deck demolition, YCC employee's.



- July 5-6, Government quarters 3 and 4 both had trees removed from the front of the house making room for a planned wood deck demolition. The tree roots had buckled the sidewalks and driveways at these quarters. Plans of demolishing the wooden decks and making concrete patios are underway. We received a bid on the three patios and decided to do them in-house due to the timing of the fiscal year and Contracting being shorthanded.

The first quarter to replace the deck and pour a patio was quarters three. At the end of July we demolished the deck, used a tree stump grinder, and had formed up the patio, waiting for the concrete.

- YCC employees have been busy painting the inside of quarters #3. The recent occupant moved out into their own house leaving quarters #3 temporarily vacant. We are busy getting the quarters livable for the next occupant.
- We are going through the hatchery Maintenance Shop cleaning up things we need to get rid of. We are revamping the two southern bays to be able to put aquaculture equipment while still being able to park vehicles in them.
- We are also experimenting with different fish feeders used in the nursery. The old electric feeders are no longer made and harder to find parts to keep them running. Belt feeders are expensive so we wanted to look into a feeder that was less expensive but able to feed fish well enough to free up personnel to perform other needed work. Bio Science Tech, Giordullo researched feeders and came up with a product called a Koi Pond Feeder made by Super-Feed Enterprise. We tried one and it worked out well so we purchased three more.

