

# Jackson National Fish Hatchery



*August 2020*

**1500 Fish Hatchery Rd  
Jackson, WY 83001  
Office Phone: 307-733-2510**

# Snake River Cutthroat 8/31/2020

UNIT	PRG	LOT	START	MORTS	END	WT	NO/LB	LNGTH	D.I.	FEED
T1	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	17681	174	17507	11.7	1500	1.22	0.069	
T2	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	18036	237	17799	11.9	1500	1.22	0.070	
T3	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	17861	201	17660	11.8	1500	1.22	0.070	
T4	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	18280	300	17980	12.0	1500	1.22	0.071	
T5	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	18777	214	18563	12.4	1500	1.22	0.073	
T6	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	18327	272	18055	12.0	1500	1.22	0.071	
T7	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	18241	267	17974	12.0	1500	1.22	0.071	
T8	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	20248	210	20038	6.7	3000	0.97	0.050	
T9	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	18762	330	18432	12.3	1500	1.22	0.073	
T10	PR	cut-srw-20-aub	10727	145	10582	3.5	3000	0.97	0.026	
T11	PR	cut-srw-19-aub	2497	6	2491	530.0	4.7	8.30	0.237	3.8
T12	PR	cut-srw-19-aub	2557	4	2553	543.2	4.7	8.30	0.242	3.9
R2	PR	cut-srw-19-aub								
R3	PR	cut-srw-19-aub								
R6	PR	cut-srw-19-aub	16376	0	16376	2243.3	7.3	7.17	0.234	21.9
R7	PR	cut-srw-19-aub	13200	3	13197	1649.6	8	6.95	0.177	16.6
R10	PR	cut-srw-19-aub	15937	3	15934	1943.2	8.2	6.89	0.211	19.7
R11	PR	cut-srw-19-aub	17178	4	17174	2418.9	7.1	7.23	0.250	23.4
R14	PR	cut-srw-19-aub								
R15	PR	cut-srw-19-aub								
R18	PR	cut-srw-19-aub								
R19	PR	cut-srw-19-aub								

PRODUCTION		START#	MORTS	END#	WT(LBS)	NO/LB	LNGTH	D.I.	FEED
	cut-srw-19-aub	67745	20	67725	9328.1	7	7.18	0.123	89.4
	cut-srw-20-aub	176940	2350	174590	106.2	1800	1.14	0.064	

## Snake River Cutthroat

We have begun our large scale stocking of Palisades Reservoir on the Wyoming/Idaho border. By the end of September we will move 145,000 cutthroat (25,000+ lbs) to their new home. Typically the fish are adipose fin clipped, but due to COVID social distancing protocols the fish get to keep all their fins this year. The popular reservoir on the Snake River has 70 miles of shoreline and is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest in Idaho with 1.2 million acre-ft of water. Jackson NFH was created during the Palisades Dam Act of 1950 and it remains our priority stocking location.

Our new lot of fish that hatched in June began exhibiting bacterial coldwater disease symptoms after the vacuum degasser shut off overnight. Medicated feed knocked it back a little even though Fish Health diagnosis eventually came back negative. The fish were transferred from troughs to tanks one month early to reduce density and that appears to have a positive effect so far.



## Outreach and Employees

Our visitation numbers have started to decrease slightly with less family road trippers in the Greater Yellowstone area. Our volunteers noticed a significant reduction particularly on weekdays vs weekends. The volunteers will leave shortly after Labor Day and visitors will still be able to view fish outside and in our fishing pond.

Liz and Jake conducted a virtual Environmental Compliance audit with the regional coordinator. There were no findings to report.

Jake has begun planning the installation of snow guards on the main hatchery building roof to prevent heavy snow/ice build-up that has destroyed our gutters the last few years.

Mike and Chaz are busy disinfecting raceways as they become empty for the winter, as well as spraying down the troughs for storage.



## Partnerships

During the week of August 10<sup>th</sup> a helicopter was used by Teton County Weed & Pest to treat several areas on the National Elk Refuge, including Fish Hatchery Hill, for highly invasive Cheatgrass. It creates a serious risk for wildfires and reduces the quality of wildlife habitat. In total over 7,000 acres was treated in the valley with support from partners such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife.

## Maintenance and Equipment

At 10:30pm on August 22<sup>nd</sup> our main well #3 (2000gpm) went down. Jake was unable to get it running so we switched to backup well #5 (1800gpm). That well shut off at 12:30am but we could find nothing wrong other than a decomposing skunk in the well house. We got #5 running again but it proceeded to shut off approximately every 2 hours requiring Jake/Liz to alternate manual startup. After 12 frustrating hours we decided on a few Sunday emergency stocking runs to empty a raceway so the well wasn't needed anymore. A specialist has been contacted about repair of both wells.



## Upcoming

- Comprehensive Condition Assessment of entire facility with Kris Johnson - postponed
- Continue stocking 145,000 cutthroat into Palisades Reservoir
- Stock 10,000 cutthroat into Dinwoody Lake on the Wind River Reservation
- Volunteers will head home and tours will come to an end due to COVID protocols
- Begin replacement of all five raceway huts

## Current Staff

- Liz Sunshine - Project Leader
- Mike Conlin – Fish Biologist/Asst Project Leader
- Jake Kujawa –Maintenance Mechanic
- Chaz Noles – Seasonal Bio Tech
- Randy and Shirley Yates – Summer Tour Guides

