



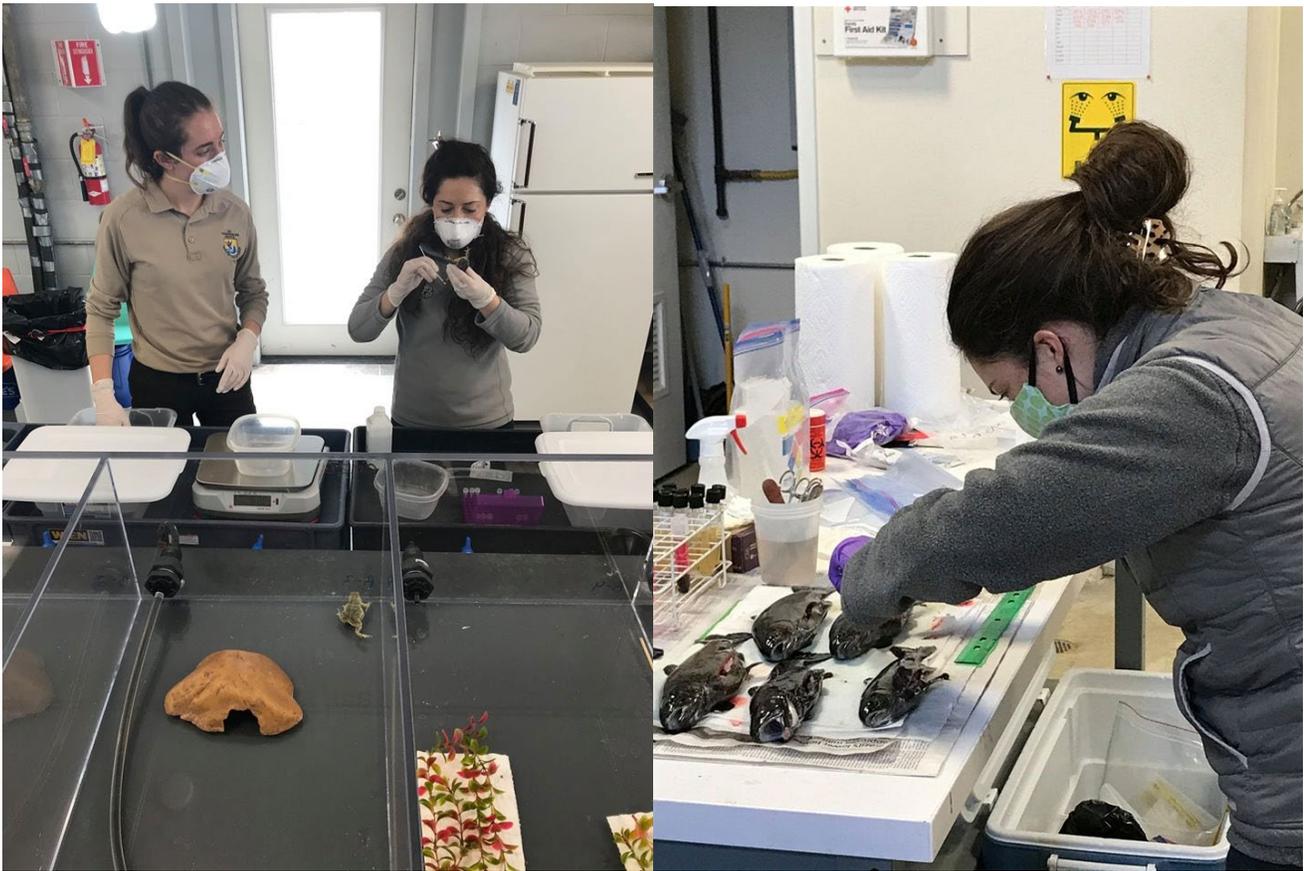
Leadville National Fish Hatchery

April 2020

April this year was the month of fairly rapid snow melt. In most years' that doesn't happen until May. With the rapidly melting snowpack it reveals the aftermath of a long winter. There's always some damage to the grounds from plowing, the critters were busy rearranging the lawns under the snow, the runoff always winds up some place you don't want it, but..... the days are getting longer and spring is in the air in the high country. There still will be the occasional snow up until June, but we can take it since we know it won't last.



The new morning staff meeting.



Dr. Colby Wells, Aquatic Vet with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, assisted us with our annual fish and toad disease sampling.



Moving the display pond fish into their summer home..



Time to PIT tag the Wyoming toads to get ready for the summer release.



We learned the hard way in previous years that if you don't remove some of the snow from the irrigation ditch on the hillside behind the houses, that once the spring run-off starts it runs through the ditch (and houses) whether you're ready or not.



Signs of spring. The ground squirrels start venturing out of their burrows and the blue birds return.





Under the snow the northern pocket gophers were busy all winter rearranging the lawns.

Hatchery Staff

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