

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

Meetings/Training/Events:

- None
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Mitigation/Recreational Fish Production:

- This month the crew finished loading fish trucks for the fall stocking (see table below). A total of 11 truckloads of trout went out in November. We then powerwashed 24 outside raceways including eight under the white structure known as E-bank and disinfected all. We disinfected the underground pipeline between D-bank and E-bank, since it had never been disinfected before, in hopes of having healthier fish in E-bank this coming spring. After all the cleaning and disinfection we moved 18,000 pounds of fish into the open raceways where they will rear until next April when we begin our spring fish stocking.

Fish stocking for November totaled 81,253 trout weighing 29,199 pounds distributed as follows:

RBT	FLD-19-ENN	133,450	9,698	13.76	5.66
RBT	SSD-19 WSS	131,824	8,853	14.89	5.52
Total		265,274	18,551		

RBT= Rainbow, FLD= Fish Lake Domestic, SSD= Shasta Domestic, HxH= Hofer x Harrison (Colorado Strain), and VAC= Vaccinated. ENN-Ennis NFH, WSS= White Sulphur Springs NFH.

Below chart shows fish currently on station at the end of November.

Species	Strain	Number	Weight	Size/in	Location
RBT	HxH-18	48,590	19,181	10	Blue Mesa Reservoir
RBT	SSD-19	18,185	4,318	9	Ridgeway Reservoir
RBT	HxH-18	14,478	5,700	10	Ridgeway Reservoir
Total		81,253	29,199		

- The crew also prepared the inside nursery by power spraying and disinfecting the 24 inside tanks. Once that was completed, Bio Tech Giordullo assembled the PVC piping from the tanks water source to the egg jars. The egg jars were placed on new grating to receive the trout eggs for spring and fall stocking.



Fish Health:

- Fish health was good for the fish we stocked out and for the fish remaining on station. Crew members noticed a white material covering the sandy bottom of the head/tail boxes of the raceways. It may be a fungus or bacteria. It started in E-bank and has now migrated all the way to A-bank over the past two years. We plan to acquire some petri dishes from Fish Health to see if we can culture anything for them to key out.

Hatchery Maintenance

- Nov. 14- The hatchery breakroom water heater was replaced by Larry Connally from Great Western Plumbing and Heating. The water heater had been a model from the 70's according to Larry. It had gone out two months back and the crew was tired of washing dishes with cold water so it was time to finally replace it.
- Nov. 14- We had a water leak between the wall separating the breakroom bathroom and the lab sink. Called Larry mentioned above, he came back after hours and punched a hole in the wall to see where the leak was coming from. Couldn't find it that night so I told Larry that we would locate the leak and call him to fix it. After the fourth hole we found a cracked elbow on the copper pipe going to the lab sink. Larry fixed it on Saturday Nov. 16th. We are in the process of replacing the cinder blocks that we had to punch holes through.

