



ALCHESAY-WILLIAMS CREEK NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY COMPLEX WHITERIVER, AZ



Monthly Accomplishment Report APRIL 2013



Jimmy Smith unloading Apache Trout at Sunrise Lake on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation

*Bruce Thompson – Project Leader
Patti Ferlisi – Administrative Assistant*

Alchesay Unit

*Gene Okamoto – Unit Leader
Pete Drevnick – Maintenance Worker/
Motor Vehicle Operator
Jeff Cody – Motor Vehicle Operator
Joyner George – WMAT
Andy Quay – Volunteer
Nicholas Burnette – WMAT, WIA Laborer*

Williams Creek Unit

*Bradley Clarkson – Unit Leader
Russell Wood – Fish Biologist
Michael Figueroa – Motor Vehicle Operator
Jimmy Smith – Motor Vehicle Operator
Isaiah Paxson – Animal Caretaker
Dan Ragen – Maintenance Specialist*

PARTNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

- ★ All requisite water sampling for EPA was completed for both units, as well as end of month reporting.
- ★ The annual Fish Health Inspection was conducted at the Complex on April 8 and 9, 2013 by personnel from the Southwestern Native Aquatic Resources & Recovery Center. Complex personnel assisted the inspection staff by providing samples from each fish lot on station at both facilities.
- ★ Alchesay High School Special Education students continue to assist with fish culture duties at the Williams Creek unit. Each Monday and Thursday, the students assist with counting daily mortalities and recording data, as well as disinfecting egg jars, fish rearing tanks and incubator trays.



- ★ Alchesay-Williams Creek personnel participated in the monthly Fisheries Coordination meeting between AZFWCO (Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office) and WMAT-WORD (White Mountain Apache Tribe-Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Division).

AQUATIC SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT:

- ★ The Complex stocked a total of 426,586 rainbow, Apache and brook trout (32,084 pounds) into the management areas of Fort Apache, San Carlos, Jicarilla, Zuni and Navajo Nation. Of this number, 354,279 Apache trout (23,241 pounds) were distributed in the Fort Apache management areas of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, including 37,586 Apache trout (7,234 pounds) and 100,000 brook trout fry. To distribute the fish for these tribes in Arizona and New Mexico, Complex personnel drove over 6,000 miles. In an effort to conserve resources, stocking trips were consolidated again this month.

- ★ The Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (AZFWCO) provided a truck and small transport tank to help with the distribution of 100,000 brook trout fry to Sunrise Lake. The smaller vehicle was better able to maneuver the snowy road conditions to this remote location and we appreciate the assistance.



- ★ The Williams Creek unit transferred 60,000 rainbow trout fingerling to the Alchesay unit for grow out and future release as catchable size fish.

PUBLIC USE AND OUTREACH:

- ★ As the weather improves this spring, visitation at both units has increased.

WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT:

- ★ Mid-month, Bradley Clarkson assumed the Unit Leader role at the Williams Creek unit while Gene Okamoto took over as Unit Leader at Alchesay. This change in leadership will benefit the Complex and all personnel involved.
- ★ Mike Figueroa attended Region 2's Wage Grade Professional Development Training from April 8 - 12, 2013 at the Texas Chenier Plain Maintenance Complex and Training Center in Winnie, TX.
- ★ Mid-year Employee Performance Appraisal Plan reviews were completed for all of the Complex staff.

- ★ The Alchesay unit is again fortunate to have the assistance of WMAT's Workforce Investment Act program. Nicholas Burnette joined us in early April and has been assisting the unit with both maintenance and fish culture activities.



FACILITY MAINTENANCE:

- ★ The first of the month saw each of the fish distribution units undergo their annual maintenance and any necessary repairs in preparation for the upcoming busy fish stocking schedule.
- ★ Three new 20 cubic feet start troughs were set up inside the existing tanks at the Williams Creek unit. These troughs were designed to improve fry survival inside the production tankhouse by eliminating excessive handling of the young fish. The first ponding in the new troughs was 105,000 rainbow trout sac-fry on April 15, 2013. The first feeding was 12 days later.

