



ALCHESAY-WILLIAMS CREEK NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY COMPLEX WHITERIVER, ARIZONA



MONTHLY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

January 2015

*Bruce Thompson – Complex Manager
Carrie Gregory – Administrative Technician*

ALCHESAY UNIT

*Gene Okamoto – Unit Leader
Pete Drevnick – Maintenance Worker/Motor Vehicle Operator
Jeff Cody – Motor Vehicle Operator
Joyner George – WMAT Fisheries
Chadwick “Sharkey” Amos – Volunteer
Travis Taylor – Laborer*

WILLIAMS CREEK UNIT

*Bradley Clarkson – Unit Leader
Russell Wood – Fish Biologist
Vacant – Maintenance Specialist
Mike Figueroa – Motor Vehicle Operator
Jimmy Smith – Motor Vehicle Operator
Isaiah Paxson – Animal Caretaker
Carol Walker – Volunteer
Jonathon Walker – Volunteer*



PARTNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

- All requisite water sampling for the EPA was completed for both units.
- 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 and Outdoor Recreation Division).
- A pre-construction (Pre-Con) teleconference call between Alchesay-Williams Creek staff, Redpoint Contracting, and regional office contracting staff took place to discuss the details of the upcoming ABC pipeline project. February 17, 2015 was the agreed upon notice to proceed date.

AQUATIC SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT:

- Hatchery personnel drove 368 miles to deliver 5,000 rainbow trout (~8” length) to San Carlos Indian reservation and 239 miles to deliver 74,553 rainbow trout (~4” length) to Fort Apache Indian reservation (FAIR). As seen in the pictures, these fish were stocked through the ice. This was a new and challenging aspect of needing to stock FAIR waters in January. Thank you to Jennifer Johnson who assisted with information gathering and planning of this successful operation.

In addition, 87,543 rainbow trout 3 to 4” in length were transferred from the Williams Creek Unit to the Alchesay Unit in a continuing effort to reduce the numbers of fish at Williams Creek Hatchery. Most of these transfer fish were originally scheduled for transfer to Alchesay in April at 5 inches in length. Due to declining flows and upcoming construction at Williams Creek, it was necessary to stock and transfer these rainbow trout early.



- Apache trout spawning season at Williams Creek continued throughout the month of January. Eggs were taken from 490 two and three year old brood stock females. Roughly 480,000 eggs were fertilized and put into incubation units this month. 129,530 eggs eyed up in January, 77,764 of which were sent to Tonto SFH (AGFD). About 1.2 million Apache trout eggs have been taken to date in FY15.

PUBLIC USE AND OUTREACH:

- The complex received 13 visitors this month. Hatchery visitation is always down during the cold winter months.

WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT:

- Carol Walker continues to provide valuable assistance at the Williams Creek Unit. She provided 132.5 hours this month with fish culture duties and building maintenance. Jonathon Walker provided 93 hours at Williams Creek toward outside fish culture duties, grounds and equipment maintenance, and office work.



- Staff completed interviews for the maintenance worker position at the Williams Creek Unit. John Fenslage, a decorated Army veteran and trained, certified welder, has been selected for the position. He is in the process of completing his new hire paperwork and medical exams; we look forward to having John join our team!

LEADERSHIP IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

- Pete Drevnick and Travis Taylor continue with Pond 3 modifications. During January, vinyl sheet-pile wall construction was completed. Unfortunately additional progress has been very slow due to rain, snow, mud, and other adverse weather conditions at the work site.
- Pete Drevnick and Travis Taylor spent the second half of January at the Williams Creek Unit, beginning work on a freshwater temporary bypass line to C-bank and thinning trees on hatchery grounds as part of a fire prevention plan measure.



Before and after pictures of the Pond 3 wall construction

- A new blower motor for the back-up oxygen generator at Williams Creek was received. Installation will take place after our new Maintenance Worker, John Fenslage, begins work at the facility.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Carrie Gregory will be traveling to the regional office in Albuquerque, NM from February 9-13th for the Administrative Conference.
- Work will continue on the temporary pipeline at the Williams Creek Unit to supply water flows to C-Bank. This will be utilized during the A and B-bank supply line construction project slated for the months of February and March. Fish currently in A, B, and C-bank raceways are also being relocated previous to the contracted construction crew's arrival.