



## ALCHESAY-WILLIAMS CREEK NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY COMPLEX WHITERIVER, ARIZONA

### ***MONTHLY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT*** ***June 2013***



*Dan Ragen assisting the anglers at White Mountain Apache Tribe's annual Bog Tank fishing derby*

***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.
- ◆ 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 26,906 fish (5,580 pounds) on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (FAIR) this month. Hatchery fish distribution units traveled 1,517 miles to accomplish these distributions.
- ◆ The Alchesay Unit was faced with typical poor summer water quality this month. In an effort to reduce stress on the fish, two to three 50-pound blocks of salt were placed at the head of each raceway as a prophylactic treatment. This was continued in each raceway for five or more consecutive days.

- ◆ A 10-day treatment of AQUAFLO<sup>®</sup> (florfenicol) was successfully used to treat Apache trout fry for Bacterial Coldwater Disease (*Flavobacterium psychrophilum*) at the Williams Creek Unit.

### **PUBLIC USE AND OUTREACH:**

- ◆ Again this year, Alchesay-Williams Creek NFHC participated in a fishing derby hosted by the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) at Bog Tank, which is located east of Hon-Dah. This annual event hosts over 300 kids, mostly tribal, with sponsorship from many area businesses. As part of our regular WMAT stocking, the hatchery also stocked 2,000 rainbow trout in the lake prior to the event.



- ◆ The Williams Creek Unit provided a tour of the hatchery to the Young Warriors from the San Carlos Wellness Center. The group consisted of 70 teenage boys and girls, who received an introduction to all aspects of our fish culture operation.



## **WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT:**

- ◆ All Hatchery staff completed their monthly reporting.
- ◆ Staff at the Williams Creek Unit manually removed a 100-gallon start trough after emptying the larger rainbow trout fry into the 375-gallon rearing unit. These were the first fish ponded from the new start troughs.



- ◆ Nick Burnette from WMAT's **Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**, completed his assignment at the Complex on June 7, 2013. His duties included seining ponds, feeding, fish stocking, sample counting, A-bank project, as well as grounds maintenance around the hatchery. He will be missed and we wish him well in his new work assignment.

## **FACILITY MAINTENANCE:**

- ◆ Construction began on the drain line/pond supply line project at the Alchesay Unit. The old steel pipe is being removed and replaced with PVC pipe. This is part of Phase Two of the Pipeline Replacement Project initiated in FY2010.



## **LEADERSHIP IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:**



***Dan Ragen using the new OxyGuard meter to measure dissolved oxygen and total gas saturation on A1 raceway at the Williams Creek Unit prior to an Aquaflo treatment***

- ◆ A new treatment chemical, AQUAFLO<sup>®</sup> (florfenicol) study request was submitted by Teresa Lewis (SNAARC Fish Health Center Leader/Study Monitor for Alchesay-Williams Creek NFHC) to the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership Program (AADAP) Office for review and approval. Bonnie Johnson, National INAD Program Administrator of the AADAP Office in Bozeman, Montana, reviewed the Aquaflo study request and made a few changes. After one week of treatment, chronic mortality in this year's (BY13) Apache trout appeared to be under control. With the completion of the 10-day Aquaflo treatment, mortalities dropped to less than 10 per day for the 100,000 fish remaining in this lot. Thank you to everyone who assisted in successfully controlling this potentially devastating bacterial outbreak.