



ALCHESAY-WILLIAMS CREEK NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY COMPLEX WHITERIVER, ARIZONA



MONTHLY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

October 2015

*Bruce Thompson – Complex Manager
Travis Taylor- 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*

WILLIAMS CREEK UNIT

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



AQUATIC SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT:

- EPA required water sampling was performed twice at both hatcheries this month. This month's sampling included nitrogen, phosphate and ammonia testing.
- Gene Okamoto and Chris Ketchiyan coordinated New Mexico stocking for the fall. Two drivers were used to stock Navajo Nation and San Carlos Reservation on Tuesday, October 13th 2015. Navajo Nation met with our driver to offload fish onto their trucks.
- With the arrival of fall, water temperatures have dropped providing prime water temps for optimum growth of our trout. The complex has reached the requested size for our fall stocking program. Point of Pines received 13,000 Rainbow Trout and Seneca Lake received 6,000 Rainbows. Chuska was stocked with 2,500 Rainbows and Wheatfield Lake both on the Navajo Nation received 13,377 trout. Jicarillo tribe received 5,200 Rainbows.
- Williams Creek Hatchery stocked 15,773 catchable sized Brook Trout in FAIR waters. This monthly stocking program put an additional 606 miles on our stocking trucks.
- Williams Creek transferred 191,647 rainbow trout to Alchesay's raceways. The trout will grow to 5-6 inches and then be transferred into large holding ponds for the winter. The trout will have more area to swim without being as crowded, which in turn will make a stronger and healthier fish.

WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT:

- Manuel Ulibarra and his staff at SNAARC offered AWCNFH two used UTVs. One UTV will be used as a maintenance vehicle and the other will become the new fish feed vehicle for Alchesay.
- Carol Walker provided valuable assistance at the Alchesay Unit. She volunteered 134.5 hours this month helping with fish culture duties and building maintenance. Jonathon Walker provided 77.5 hours at Alchesay toward fish culture duties and ground maintenance.
- Employee Performance Appraisal Plans were explained and signed by permanent staff at the complex. Pete Drevnick assisted other wage grade employees on a MAT project at Big Muddy Refuge in Missouri for two weeks. Russ Wood went on a detail to Makah NFH in Washington State for three weeks. He will be spawning Steelhead and Coho salmon.
- The pollinator garden at Alchesay is starting to take shape. A half-acre section of unused land was rototilled and prepared for seed and native plants. Volunteer Carol Walker has taken upon herself to research, design, and start the hard work of creating a pollinator garden.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE:

- John Fenslage, the complex's Custodial Duty Safety Officer began updating the chemical data sheets for both facilities. This task is expected to take some time because he is going to complete it between other projects.
- Staff performed routine and scheduled maintenance tasks at both facilities. In addition to routine maintenance, final pre demo jobs were completed at Williams Creek and road repair was completed at the Alchesay Unit.
- John Fenslage took measurements of the new head box and reviewed plans with Alchesay staff in order to fabricate an aluminum walkway and feed structure for the newly completed Pond 3.

PUBLIC USE AND OUTREACH:

- Williams Creek received 45 visitors this month and Alchesay received 215 visitors. Visitation and tours have declined as cooler temperatures and shorter days have arrived.
- Staff at Alchesay gave hatchery tours to two groups of employees from Indian Health Services of Whiteriver. A large retirement party took place at Alchesay's park. Total attendance was 200 people.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- FBMS training in Flagstaff.
- FAC Project Leaders Meeting
- Apache Trout spawning



Trout pumpkin carving at AWCNFH