



## Monthly Accomplishments

August 2016

### Fisheries Activities

#### Water Quality

This month's average dissolved oxygen level, for the incoming water, was 1.70 mg/L and a mean temperature of 28.2°C. Monthly pond dissolved oxygen levels averaged were similar to last month at 6.10 mg/L (78.0% saturation), at an average pond temperature of 28.8° C.

The filter system is still self-cleaning every 30 minutes to prevent fouling but the manual cleaning is now performed every eight to ten days. With a high load of organic material in Inks Lake (due to heavy rainfall earlier in the year), the necessity for frequent manual cleanings is not surprising.

#### Channel catfish

Hatchery staff delivered 26,475 FY16 fish to the White Mountain and San Carlos Apache in Arizona. Average fish length was 4.4 inches at 40.24 fish per pound. Currently on station are an estimated 116,906 FY16 fish with an average length of 4.09 inches maintained in four production ponds. These fish will be split into additional production ponds to fill FY17 requests from Tribal partners.

All of the FY15 fish are currently being held in one production pond. San Marcos ARRC received 2,711 FY15 fish for their Kids Fishing program and 4,659 FY15 fish were delivered to Alabama Coushatta in Texas. To date, an estimated 4,410 remain

on station for future brood stock and outreach use.

Production numbers for the FY14 Channel catfish are 2,586 averaging 1.72 fish per pound (fpp) and 12.49 inches in total length. No mortalities were recorded for the month.

Currently there are 540 FY13 channel catfish averaging 0.46 fpp and 19.41 inches in total length. No mortalities were recorded for the month.

#### Clear Creek gambusia

All FY14, FY15, and F1's and F2's have been returned to 12:12 light:dark photoperiod. Water quality indices continue to be monitored daily to provide optimum growing conditions. Fifteen FY16 F1 juveniles were collected from a single FY14 female. The new juveniles are being offered finely ground commercial flake feed and live *Artemia nauplii* until they are large enough to consume frozen brine shrimp. The additional 15 juveniles bring the total FY16 F1 population (genetically pure wild caught parents) to 33.

The FY14 Clear Creek gambusia currently in isolation totals 43 fish. No mortalities were recorded during the month. There are currently 28 FY15 Clear Creek Gambusia. Two mortalities were recorded during the month with no external parasites or signs of bacterial infection.

The FY15 F1 Clear Creek gambusia total 201, of which;



Visitors to Inks Dam NFH get to see the noon-time feeding of FY16 channel catfish.

128 are female and 73 are males. A total of two FY15 F1 mortalities were recorded during the month with no external parasites or signs of bacterial infection.

To-date we have produced, through our spawning technique, a total of 550, FY16 F2's of which we currently have 519. A total of two mortalities occurred in this population during the month of August. Sexual dimorphism has already started and fish are being separated by gender as soon as males are identified.

#### Personnel

Scott Walker conducted interviews for the Fishery Biologist position. Daniel Bailey Gaines was selected for the position with an official start date of October 30, 2016.

## **Maintenance**

Staff performed routine equipment and facility maintenance during the month. The kettles and pond liner Deferred Maintenance Projects (DM) projects continued this month. The raceway cover for



the mussel program was completed. The structure will be fenced and gated during the month of September.

Hatchery staff would like to again thank Michael Zamora of the Division of Engineering (ENG) for his invaluable assistance with these projects. His knowledge and skill set is greatly appreciated.

## **Visitors, Education and Outreach**

Inks Dam NFH had 194 visitors for the month despite the heat. The Friends of Inks Dam NFH (FOIDNFH) and other volunteers had a total of 18.5 hours for the month. They performed the usual monthly maintenance and one tour. The tour consisted of 2 adults and 12 youths belonging to the Lynn County, Texas 4H Club.

U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Southwest Region  
Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation



Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery  
345 Clay Young Road  
Burnet, TX 78611  
Phone 512/793-2474  
[http://www.fws.gov/southwest/fisheries/inks\\_dam/index.html](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/fisheries/inks_dam/index.html)

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## Current staff members

Paul Dorman .....	Project Leader
Scott Walker .....	Assistant Project Leader
Vacant .....	Environmental Education Specialist
Tammy Simmons .....	Administrative Technician
Gregory Landry .....	Fisheries Biologist
Vacant .....	Fisheries Biologist
Vacant .....	Animal Caretaker (Term)
Jeffery Pivonka .....	Maintenance Worker
Jerry Simmons .....	Maintenance Worker
Jerry Crouch .....	Maintenance Worker