

Mora National Fish Hatchery

April 2014

Whiskey Creek Spawning

The captive broodstock for the Whiskey Creek lineage of Gila Trout was spawned during the month of March. The Whiskey Creek lineage is composed of two fire rescue populations, Langstroth Creek and Whiskey Creek. The lineage was spawned on four different dates to fully capture the variability of the lineage.

Forty six genetically appropriate 1x1 crosses were taken from the Whiskey Creek lineage resulting in 24,600 green eggs. Fertilization and subsequent eye-up resulted in 11,842 eyed eggs or 48.1% eye up. Hatching was completed by the end of April and resulted in a final fry number of 10,175. Fecundity of each Whiskey Creek female was 534 eggs and is slightly less than seen in Mora's developed broodstock lineages. Thirty eight families were retained for future broodstock, with special emphasis been given to families that were tagged as high priority by Dr. Wade Wilson at SNARC.

Some interesting data was collected on Whiskey Creek during egg enumeration and evaluation concerning the two source populations. Pure Langstroth crosses (i.e. both fish were from Langstroth) resulted in 6,854 fry out of 13,438 eggs for a subsequent hatch rate of 51.0%. The first hybrid cross of a Langstroth female with a Whiskey male resulted in 1,306 fry out of 2,983 eggs for a subsequent hatch rate of 43.8%. The second hybrid cross of a Whiskey female with a Langstroth male resulted in 1,601 fry out of 5,296 eggs for a subsequent hatch rate of 30.2%. Pure Whiskey crosses resulted in 414 fry out of 1,718 eggs for a subsequent hatch rate of 24.1%.



Earth Day

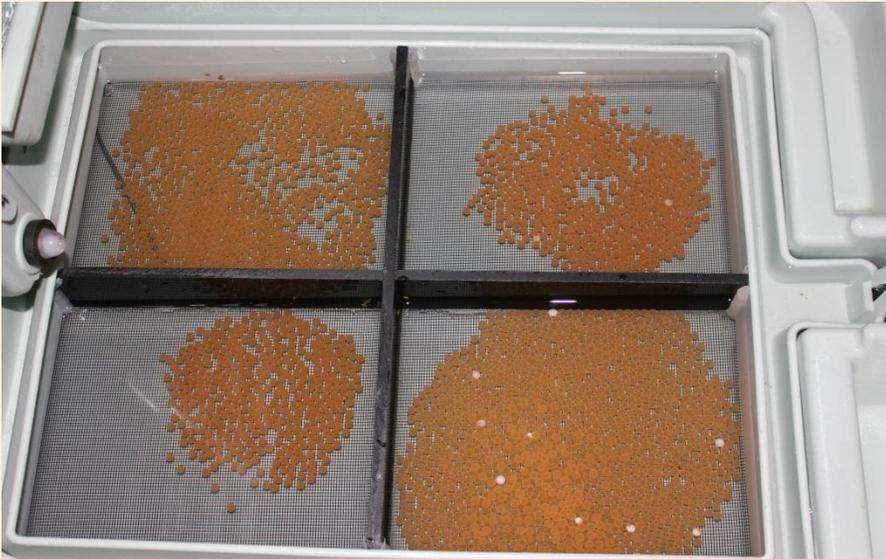
The Mora National Fish Hatchery participated in the annual Earth Day event held in conjunction with the US Forest Service, Las Vegas District in Las Vegas, NM on April 30. The centerpiece of the presentation was a living stream unit that displayed four adult Gila trout.



Outdoor Classroom

Mora National Fish Hatchery in partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Western Mora district, held an Outdoor Classroom on April 24 on the hatchery grounds. This educational experience centered on fourth and seventh grade students from the Mora school district.

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management



- Eighty six genetically appropriate 1x1 crosses were taken from the Main Diamond lineage resulting in 58,348 green eggs. Fertilization and subsequent eye-up resulted in 10,908 fry or 20.1% hatch. Fecundity of each Main Diamond female was 678 eggs and was slightly above average. Fifty one families were retained for broodstock development.
- Fifty five genetically appropriate 1x1 crosses were taken from the South Diamond lineage resulting in 37,064 green eggs. Fertilization and subsequent eye-up resulted in 5,374 eyed eggs or 15.0% hatch. Fecundity of each South Diamond female was 674 eggs and was slightly above average. Thirty two families were retained for broodstock development.

Maintenance

- Work was completed on plumbing the broodstock tanks into recirculation system 3.
- The “new” mobile home arrived on April 24 and was installed and tied down.
- Work continued on installing the water quality monitoring alarm system. Sensaphone automatic dialers were purchased and installed to alert staff of an emergency situation.
- A new dedicated phone line was installed for the Sensaphone units.

In Brief

Jill Wick and Mya Kapoor visited the hatchery on April 3. Mya is authoring a book on species recovery and was very interested in Mora’s efforts.

Jeff Powell gave a presentation to Las Cruces fly fisherman on April 14.

Craig Springer and Boy Scouts from Varsity Team 465 from Edgewood, NM visited the hatchery on April 18. They were given a tour of the hatchery and assisted staff with genetic sampling of South Diamond Gila Trout.

Stewart Jacks visited the hatchery on April 29. He was given an in depth tour of the facility and then met with the staff.

Hatchery Staff

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