



Mora National Fish Hatchery

July 2014

VIE Tagging

Mora staff completed VIE tagging the 2014 broodstock year class in July. The addition of the Whiskey Creek lineage for broodstock development has compromised the hatchery's ability to retain individual families separate until a suitable size for pit tagging. The solution was to use VIE markings to differentiate between individual families in tanks containing multiple families. Hatchery staff was assisted by volunteers Gail Graham and Valerie Fischer, and YCC students from the Las Vegas Refuge. The hatchery greatly appreciated the assistance.



New Visitor Bench Installed

Mora purchased a visitor's bench to be placed atop the hill behind the hatchery once a proposed walking trail had been completed. The trail is unimproved, arduous, and steep. It was decided to finally install the bench and Daniel Gallegos and Nate Wiese disassembled it, carried it piece by piece up the hill, and reassembled and installed it at the top of the hill. Great Job guys!

New Project Leader Visits

Nathan Wiese was selected to be Mora's new Project Leader, and he visited the station for two weeks during July. Nate is currently the Assistant Hatchery Manager at Dworshak. The staff is looking forward to working with him when he returns in September





“Bunkhouse” Re-plumbed

Quarters #3 had been unusable as quarters for as long as the staff remembers. The decision was made to convert this unit into a bunkhouse for visiting staff and volunteers. The first step in the rehabilitation process was the complete removal of the water system, and the reinstallation of all new lines and hardware.

Daniel on Detail

Daniel Gallegos, Mora’s intern, performed a detail with SNARCC in July. He assisted hatchery staff with feeding, water quality monitoring, and facility and grounds maintenance. He enjoyed the experience and is ready for another adventure in 2015.



Volunteer Valerie Fischer

Valerie Fischer, a student at Lonestar College in Texas volunteered at the hatchery from July 25 to July 29. She assisted hatchery staff with daily cleaning, feeding, moving fish, and assisted with VIE tagging. The staff thanks her for assistance and would welcome her back anytime!

Bunkhouse Completed

The Bunkhouse conversion was completed just in time to house a volunteer at the end of July. The unit received a **thorough** cleaning, the interior was remodeled including moving walls and outlets, new appliances were purchased, and new plumbing fixtures were installed. Grant Langmaid supplied the “finishing touch” by donating a mounted buffalo head.





Mora's "New" Tractor

Hatchery staff located a tractor on surplus property with 40 hours on it and arranged to have it brought to the hatchery. Once a few attachments are sourced, it will prove very valuable around the facility

"New" Trailer Work

The hatchery replaced one of the old FEMA onsite trailers with one off of surplus. Unfortunately it was discovered that the tub and toilets in both bathrooms were cracked and broken. The old units were removed and new units were purchased for installation.



Settling Pond Switched

Hatchery staff switched the settling ponds over during July. Experimentation with the frequency of switching the ponds determined that a shorter change over period greatly reduced the NPDES nutrient exceedances that Mora has experienced. The current schedule is to switch the ponds every six months.



Visitor Center Progress

Staff continues to work on the new visitor's center quarantine system. New micro-screen filters and UV sterilization units were purchased and installed. Tank cross connects were also drilled and installed. Once supply and drain lines are finished the system will be operational.



Whiskey Creek Moved

Whiskey Creek captive broodstock was split in July. The tanks were over density and were experiencing oxygen fluctuations that occasionally caused the water quality monitor to alarm. Only fish that had contributed to this year's broodstock were moved into the old visitor's center system.



In Brief

The Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge's YCC students visited the hatchery on July 30. They were given a in-depth tour of the facility before assisting staff with VIE tagging.

Jeff Conway attended the Gila Trout Recovery Team meeting on July 7.

Nate Wiese, Mora's new Project leader visited the hatchery from July 21 to August 1.

Surplus Property

All staff participated in formulating a surplus property list in July. Previous attempts had removed a significant amount of surplus property, however some always remained. Staff walked through all buildings and generated a comprehensive list for disposal. Anyone need a John Deere 5-Wheeler?



Hatchery Staff

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Lori Casados, Administrative Assistant
Grant Langmaid, Fish Biologist
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