

ORLEANS ROD & GUN CLUB

JAN 5 1995

P. O. Box 35, Orleans, CA 95556

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT 14-48-0001-93519

PROJECT 93-FR-3

ORLEANS ROD AND GUN CLUB STEELHEAD REARING PROJECT

FINAL REPORT

Abstract

The Orleans Rod and Gun Club, hereafter referred to as the Club, raised over 7500 steelhead fingerlings rescued from the Scott River drainage by the California Department of Fish and Game, hereafter referred to as the Department. The rescued steelhead were delivered to the Club's rearing tanks in Orleans, California, in July 1993 by the Department. The Club provided food, medication, and other items necessary for the survival of the steelhead in our care over a ten month period. In April 1994, the Department returned the juvenile steelhead to the Scott River system.

The Club's objectives to 1) Rear juvenile steelhead for release back into the Scott River basin and 2) Augment natural production and increase spawning populations of native steelhead on the Scott River, were met.

Introduction

The Club received a grant to raise rescued steelhead in 1992 from the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service (hereafter called the Service), originally under cooperative agreement #14-48-0001-92501, Project 92-FR-4. Because of a lack of availability of rescued steelhead that year due to drought conditions, no fish were delivered to our facility. The Service extended the grant in March 1993 and gave the Club a new cooperative agreement, #14-48-0001-93519, Project 93-FR-3.

9200 rescued steelhead were delivered to the Club's rearing facility in Orleans, California, on July 7, 18, and 27, 1993, with some additional fish delivered in early August. The Club assumed responsibility of caring for the young steelhead at that time.

A temporary employee was hired when the fish first arrived to care for them until a permanent employee could be hired. The permanent employee was hired in mid-July. The employee was responsible for feeding the fish, cleaning the tanks, and doing maintenance work at the facility five days a week. Club volunteers took care of the fish on weekends.

Very few problems were encountered during the time that the Club was responsible for the fish. Medicated fish food was used on several occasions based on advice for biologists of the Department and/or the Service. There was one occasion of what might have been a bear breaking down the fence, but no major damage occurred. There was also an incident of humans breaking into the facility, but again no major damage occurred.

Several workparties were held by the Club in which Club members assisted in doing major maintenance work, installing new fencing and gates, and constructing other necessary improvements.

The steelhead raised by the Club were released back into the Scott River basin on April 7, 1994, by the Department. The estimate by the Department, based on weight, put the number of steelhead at 7580.

Tasks

All tasks were successfully completed. This report meets the requirement of Task 5.

Summary of Expenditures

The Club received a grant for \$12,476.00. Of this total, the Club utilized \$7670.76. A detailed accounting of our expenditures will be found in our quarterly reports.

Non-Federal Contributions

The Club contributed through cash purchases and volunteer labor a total of \$1747.51. These contributions consisted of the following:

Volunteer labor	\$960.00
Heavy equipment	\$345.00
Supplies	\$107.43
Electricity	\$148.54
Refrigerator	\$100.00
Worker's Comp. Insurance	<u>\$ 86.54</u>
	\$1747.51

Preference in Employment

The Club hired an Indian youth temporarily while we advertised for a permanent employee. The youth worked to earn money for his college education. No Indian or displaced fisheries resource dependent individuals applied for our position. We subsequently hired a semi-retired man who was living on a minimum social security pension.

Summary

The Club was pleased with the decision by the Service to extend the term of our grant when we were unable to obtain rescued steelhead from the Scott River drainage in 1992. Even though the number of fish delivered to us by the Department was one-third of our capacity, we feel that the Klamath Basin benefited from our contribution of over 7000 healthy fingerling steelhead being returned to the river after one year of rearing in our facility.

The Club received its classification as a tax deductible organization from the Internal Revenue Service for its fish rearing activities. We intend to solicit contributions from private sources

so that we can continue our efforts since the rearing of steelhead is currently a low priority within the scope of the Klamath River restoration efforts. We hope that the Service will be supportive of our efforts in this endeavor.

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