



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) Monthly Progress Report

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Facility Issues

- OHRC staff cleaned in and around the intake bays this month. Debris and sediment were removed while the water level is low to prepare for this winter. This is part of the annual facility maintenance.
- A volunteer contractor with a small excavator spent one day working at OHRC in the stream channels. The stream channels were restructured to prepare for Ben Ramirez's cutthroat project starting in July.

Fish Handling/Research Projects

- We continue to incubate steelhead eggs and fry for David Noakes, Kassi Cole and others. Three groups of steelhead were incubated at heated, ambient and chilled water temperatures. The range of temperatures is +/- 8 degrees Fahrenheit. In total six wild and six hatchery families were used for this project. The project will help to determine if incubation temperature causes salmonids to change sex. In other fish, increased rearing temperatures have shown to cause sex changes in fish populations.
- This month the heated group of steelhead from Noakes temperature study was sampled. Sampling entails measuring and weighing 50 fish/family. We also preserved genetic tissue from each of 100 fish to determine the genetic sex of each fish as well as the body from each of the same 100 fish to do histology and determine the type of gametes each fish produces.
- This month the ambient group from the same project was ponded and started on feed. We will feed and rear this group for six weeks to increase fish size for histology.
- Camille Leblanc left for Iceland this month after wrapping up her smolt tagging study.
- We also assisted Camille with final sampling of her egg size and growth rate experiments.
- In November of 2009, OHRC assisted Oak Springs Hatchery with a triploid trout project. We used a hydrostatic pressure chamber to induce triploidy in Rainbow Trout, making the fish reproductively sterile. This month we tested the induction rate of each of the test groups using the flow cytometry equipment at Oregon State University in the Micro-Biology Department. ODFW Fish Health Services had a huge part in making this workout.

Outreach & Education

- This year's Free Fishing Day event was a huge success. Over 450 people attended the event, approximately half being children. Lots of fish were caught and the weather was great.
- The Vet Science Class from Independence High School spent part of one day touring OHRC. The class visits late each school year.