



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

"DRAFT"

Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) Monthly Progress Report

Month: March 2010

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Facility Issues

- Pace Heating was here to perform annual preventive maintenance on all of the facilities heating and cooling systems this month.
- Staff serviced and started up the process water room chiller this month. The chiller will be used to chill water for one incubator stack for incubating winter steelhead embryos.
- The screw trap was placed in Fall Creek and we began trapping this month. Camille Leblanc is trapping and tagging wild winter steelhead smolts from Fall Creek to track survival and migration timing through the river and estuary. High water flows early this month prevented operating the trap for nearly two weeks.

Fish Handling/Research Projects

- Four troughs were set-up in the tank farm for use during Christine May's study. The troughs were filled with rock from the stream channels and will act as control groups for her stream experiments, measuring effects of burial depth and sediment load.
- Christine May's project in the stream channels started this month. This study will help establish a quantitative relationship between sediment deposition and survival of naturally reproducing steelhead. She will use the experimental stream channels at OHRC to vary the depth and composition of sediment overlying incubating eggs and measure the impacts. Emerging fry will be captured in emergence traps and escapees were enumerated by snorkeling and electrofishing.
- Ryan traveled to Fall River Hatchery this month to set-up and perform a Triploid Trout project. A hydrostatic pressure chamber was used to induce triploidy in the "Crane-bows," a capture help stock of Rainbow Trout from Crane Prairie Reservoir, held at Fall River Hatchery. We will measure induction rate of each treatment group as well as egg and fry survival.
- We started spawning steelhead at Alsea Hatchery this month to take eggs from hatchery and wild Siletz STW for two OSU projects. One project related to egg size differences between stocks and long term effects of egg size. The other project will investigate effects of extreme temperature treatments on sex differentiation (i.e. can fish that are genetic female become males from temperature increases or decreases). This is common in non-salmonid stocks.

-Adult trap numbers to date are:

	Chinook	Coho	Steelhead
2009-'10 (to date)	55	414	91 wild 33 hatchery
2008-'09 (season total)	40	115	166 wild 30 hatchery

Outreach & Education

-Ryan along with Matt Frank from Alsea Hatchery set-up classroom incubators in four classrooms at the Alsea School. The classes will incubate and then release 100 steelhead fry each.

-Rachael Garcia, a practicum student from the Aquarium Science Program at the Oregon Coast Community College, wrapped up her practicum this month. She worked with students and OHRC staff one day each week learning data collection, fish handling and fish culture skills.