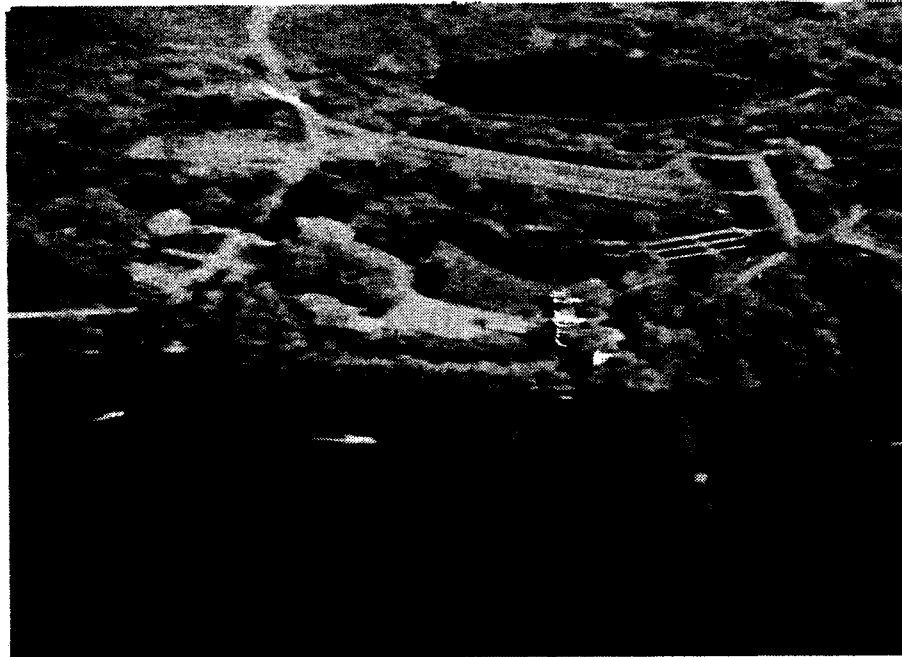




AMERICAN FALLS HATCHERY
ANNUAL REPORT

October 1, 1985 to September 30, 1986



by

Gary Baker

Fish Hatchery Superintendent II

October 1987

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ABSTRACT

American Falls is a production station for catchable and fingerling rainbow trout. Overall production was 1,430,332 rainbow trout, weighing 207,955 pounds. Overall feed conversion was 1.33.

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INTRODUCTION

American Falls Hatchery is located one-half mile downstream of the American Falls Reservoir Dam on the northern bank of the Snake River. Reuger Springs provides approximately 20 cfs of 55°F water. Packed columns reduce nitrogen gas saturation to 104% and increase dissolved oxygen to from 8.4 to 9.0 ppm.

Facilities include three residences, temporary quarters, nursery building with office, shop and feed storage, equipment storage and fire and irrigation buildings.

Egg and fry production units include ten double stack Heath incubators and ten circular Heath vats. Ten fish production raceways are 4 ft x 8 ft x 200 ft each, with a water flow of 900 gpm. Four 50 ft x 400 ft ponds act as settling basins.

OBJECTIVE

To produce 150,000 to 175,000 lb of disease-free rainbow trout for statewide stocking programs.

FISH PRODUCTION

Table 1. Fish production at American Falls Hatchery, 1985 to 1986.

Species	0" - 3"		3" - 6"		6+"		Total	
	No.	lb	No.	lb	No.	lb	No.	lb
Rainbow								
(R-1)	182,618	631	0	0	0	0	182,618	631
Rainbow								
(R-2)	0	0	0	0	742,531	180,259	742,531	180,259

FISH FEED

Table 2. Fish food utilized at American Falls Hatchery, 1985 to 1986.

Manufacturer	Size	Pounds	Cost
Clear Springs	All sizes	189,373	\$29,534
Rangen Regular	1/8" pellet	84,634	14,347
Rangen Medicated	#Sand#6	<u>3,325</u>	<u>975</u>
Totals		277,332	\$44,856

DISTRIBUTION

Table 3. Fish distribution to other hatcheries.

Hatchery	Number	Pound
Hagerman	182,618	631
McCall	97,225	26,175
Kamiah	28,249	8,630
Clark Fork	117,380	34,250
Ashton	17,050	5,500
Hayspur	40,240	15,200
Grace	2,500	1,000

RECEIVED

Table 4. Fish received from other hatcheries.

Hatchery	Number	Pounds
Grace	119,500	1,732

Hatchery Improvements

All building exteriors were painted by the engineering crew. The interiors of the shop and two residences were painted by hatchery personnel. A fire protection pump was purchased and installed in a new 9 ft x 14 ft building. The irrigation pump and engine were overhauled by hatchery personnel. Landscaping, including tree and shrub planting, was done by hatchery personnel.

Hatchery Needs

1. Exposed water in spring area needs to be covered with rocks to reduce chances of disease transmission to fish.
2. Two 24,000 lb feed bins are needed to replace the existing rusted bin.
3. Hatchery grounds landscaping and irrigation system needs to be completed.
4. Residence 11 needs roofing and siding.
5. Roadway surfaces need to be asphalted.
6. Another permanent employee needs to be hired to meet workload demands.
7. Bird screening over raceways needs replaced.

Public Relations

In addition to fishermen contacts during stocking operations, numerous school and scout group tours were conducted.

Staff

The permanent staff consists of a Fish Hatchery Superintendent II and a Fish Hatchery Superintendent I. One Bio-Aide and up to three temporary laborers are employed as needed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hatchery staff:

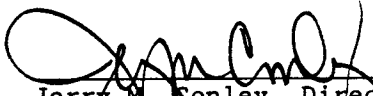
Gary Baker, Fish Hatchery Superintendent II
Dave Billman, Fish Hatchery Superintendent I
Marc Arms, Bio-Aide and Laborer
Sherman Sprauge, Laborer

Submitted by:

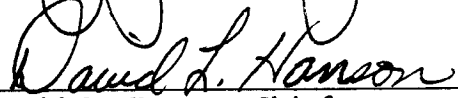
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