Powell River Salmon Society

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Eggtake Totals

Original Chinook-920 131
Remaining- 849 215 92% survival
1.02 g-2.72g avg. size

Original Chum- 800 329
Remaining- 729 551 92% survival
.66 g avg. size

Original Coho-323 485
Remaining- 303 829 94% survival
Rearing-225 1787
Incubation-78 650
.5 g avg. size

We have been carrying out transports to redistribute our Chinook production as the biomass has increased to just over 2065kg. The Chinook are now split between both of our hatcheries at Duck Lake and the Mill.

Snow fall and sub-zero temperatures occurred at Duck Lake in early March keeping water temperatures down at the 3 and 4 degrees Celsius. By month end warmer day time temperatures moved water temperatures up to 6 degrees Celsius.

The warming water temperature trend increased the metabolism of the fish. Increased metabolism combined with an increased biomass has heightened our workload. We are moving into the peak of our rearing production cycle.

We have now completed 10 transports of fish to the Duck Lake Hatchery for the current production cycle.

After careful logistical planning, several things happen.

Each transport includes capture and loading of fish. This is usually done by use of seine net and our fish pump.

The careful monitoring of oxygen levels during loading and transport is essential to assure the survival of the fish.

Safe and smooth unloading of the fish upon arrival at the Duck Lake Hatchery is the final part of our fish transport between facilities.

It is important that we are efficient with our transport procedures to insure the health and safety of our fish, staff and volunteers.

A dissolved oxygen meter is used to monitor the amount of oxygen in the water during loading and transport. It is important that oxygen levels don't increase or decrease to much as either can be detrimental to the health of the fish.

The fish transported from the Mill are unloaded into rearing units at the Duck Lake hatchery for further rearing and imprinting on Lang Creek water.

The overall Chinook biomass is now at 1524 kg. Coho 100 kg. Chum 441 kg. Our biomass is now exceeding 2065 kg.

Maintenance

We had some planned maintenance moving forward in March as well as some unplanned repairs.

Duck Lake Hatchery Tub F had a broken coupling repaired. The coupling had split and was leaking. With the freezing air temperatures, the leak was forming ice that was magnifying the issue. Our staff worked quickly to remedy the problem.

Soffits were added and modifications to the siding on the Alex Dobler Salmon Centre were carried out in March. This should help us limit rodent access to our valuable electronic equipment.

We also replaced some of the removeable brood tank sorting grates. The old grates were more than 25 years old and becoming unreliable for fish containment purposes. New grates made from aluminum will insure sorted brood is contained. The aluminum is also lighter for staff and volunteers to lift when necessary.

The lighting in our Mill Hatchery is being updated. The old fluorescent tubes and ballasts are being replaced with LED lights. Volunteers Bill Bird

and Bob Johnson are hoping to complete the upgrade in April.

Water Quality data collection continued with biweekly sampling of the Lang Creek Watershed). Routine sampling includes a test for color, pH, turbidity, temperature, salinity flow, and general weather conditions. The information is collected and used to compile an annual report. Full annual reports along with the field data can be found on our website by following the link water quality