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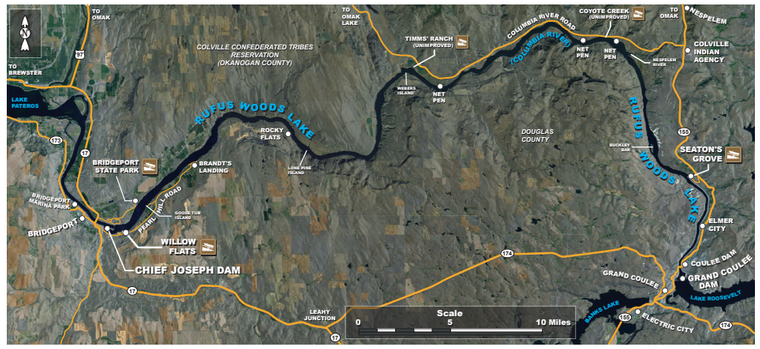
COLVILLE TRIBES FISH & WILDLIFE NEWS



Rufus Woods Lake Map

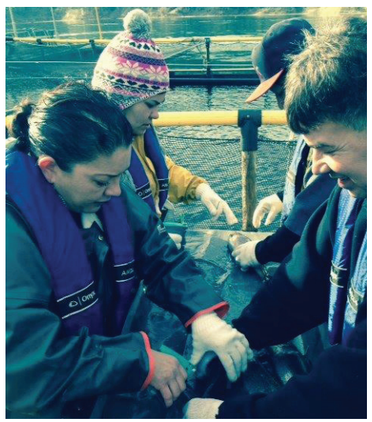
5,500 RAINBOW TROUT RELEASED INTO RUFUS WOODS

The Colville Tribal Resident Fish Hatchery and Rufus Woods Creel and Supplementation staff released 5,500 triploid rainbow trout into Rufus Woods Lake on Tuesday, February 24. The triploid rainbow trout averaged 1.5 to two pounds each. These fish can be identified by the absence of an adipose fin.

"The Colville Resident Fish Program will be releasing additional triploid rainbow trout from their net pens throughout the year to supplement the fishery," said Colville Resident Fish Hatchery Manager, Jill Phillips.

In addition, approximately 25 percent of these fish were implanted with green floy tags. Anglers that retain tagged fish are encouraged to report the tag at www.cctfwfishtags.com or by calling the Colville Tribes' Fish and Wildlife Department at (509) 634-2110. Please provide the tag number and information related to the catch (e.g., date, location, boat or shore fishing, and approximate size). This information assists fisheries biologists in managing annual fish releases into Rufus Woods Lake.

All non-members who are fishing by boat on the boundary waters of the reservation or from the shore of Rufus Woods Lake at a Designated Fishing Area (DFA) must have either a valid Colville Indian Reservation Fishing Permit, or a valid fishing license issued by the State of Washington. Non-members fishing outside of the DFA must have a tribal permit. At this time, there is only one DFA on Rufus Woods Lake which is located downstream of the Pacific Aquaculture Fish Farm net pens. Colville tribal members must possess a Colville tribal identification card that serves as a permit to fish. Anglers who purchase tribal permits help support the continued success of this fishery.



Staff implant rainbow trout with floy tags

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PROJECT PARTNERS

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION 1872

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

US Army Corps of Engineers®

P.U.D. CHELAN COUNTY POWER

Grant County PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

DOUGLAS COUNTY P.U.D.

For Additional Information Contact:

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION
Randy Friedlander,
Director of Fish and Wildlife
1 Colville Street PO Box 150
Nespelem, WA 99155
randall.friedlander@colvilletribes.com

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
Dave Roberts,
Fish Biologist/Project Manager
905 NE 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232
daroberts@bpa.gov

CHIEF JOSEPH HATCHERY'S FIFTH ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW

CJH Admin building with engraved names of each Tribe

The Chief Joseph Hatchery's (CJH) Fifth Annual Program Review (APR) was held on March 10 and 11 at the hatchery in Bridgeport, Wash. Attendees took part in workshops and implemented a plan surrounding the hatchery's upcoming production, harvest, and monitoring needs.

Colville Tribes' Fish and Wildlife (CTFW) Director, Randall Friedlander, welcomed participants to this year's program review. "This gathering provides an opportunity for our staff to work with regional partners in support of the Colville Tribes' Anadromous and CJH program," said Friedlander. "Each of you brings technical and management expertise to the table."

Presenters discussed research, monitoring and evaluation efforts, harvest and brood collection activities, adult fish management and fish production, fish ladder and weir operations, and APR goals and objectives.

"It's encouraging to see the progress and principles behind the hatchery program. It's the poster child for hatchery reform in the state of Washington," said Dr. Lars E. Mobrand, senior biometrician for DJ Warren and Associates, a congressionally-appointed member of the Hatchery Science Review Group. "Everyone understands what the mission is and their role, what they contribute and the importance of addressing conservation issues along with harvest goals. A part of adaptive management and applying good science is to be open for questions and criticism and people are very positive."

Regional experts that were invited to participate were: Northwest Power and Conservation Council, the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA), Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), The Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, Chelan, Douglas, and Grant County Public Utility Districts and area experts.

"This is a good way to share the information and ask questions," said BPA Manager, Peter Lofy. "The PUDs have really stepped up and have been consistently involved and engaged. Bonneville has no other program in the Columbia Basin where this many PUDs collaborate with BPA on a joint project." He said, "It took us a while to get everyone on board until they saw the benefits of a single facility. There are no other hatchery operation and maintenance projects with this much cost share."

For more information about the CJH Program, go to colvilletribes.com/cjhp.php

Sr. Research Scientist Casey Baldwin recognizes project partners

Salmon fry in starter tanks

CHIEF JOSEPH HATCHERY UPDATE

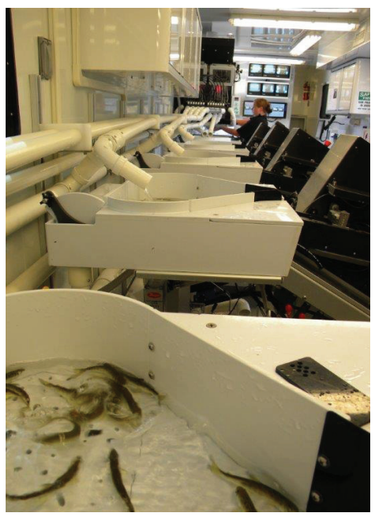
CJH will raise as many as 2.9 million Chinook fry this year! In just a few years, the salmon will return to the Okanogan and Columbia Rivers and fishing opportunities should be better than we've seen in years! The CJH and research, monitoring and evaluation staff, and the selective harvest crew have been working diligently to make this happen.

In the past few weeks, the CJH staff have been bringing in groups of salmon fry out of the incubation trays and setting up raceways for rearing them. Currently, there are about one million alevin in the incubation room. Each tray in the incubation room can hold about 5,000 alevin. At this stage they have an egg sac that provides them nutrition. When the time is right, fisheries technicians move them to starter tanks where they are hand fed. The length and weight of the fish are monitored by staff each week which regulates how much fish feed they get.

In the outdoor raceways, where the tiny salmon continue to grow, there are about 1.6 million fingerlings. These fish will be marked and tagged this April using the hatchery's automated fish system that sorts, clips, and tags juvenile salmon. This mass marking system assists the fisheries technicians because it is fast and accurate processing about 60,000 fish in eight hours.

"We will be releasing all of our 2013 yearlings this April from the hatchery and the acclimation ponds," said Pat Phillips, hatchery manager. A total of 514,000 spring Chinook yearlings and 416,000 summer/fall Chinook yearlings will be released from the hatchery. Also, 197,000 spring Chinook will be released from the Riverside Acclimation Pond, and 295,000 summer Chinook yearlings will be released from the Omak Acclimation Pond. Approximately 205,000 summer/fall Chinook will be released from the Similkameen Pond, which is operated by WDFW.

Small alevin grow in incubation room, each tray holds approx. 5,000 alevin



Automated fish system sorts, clips, and tags juvenile salmon

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

PAUL WAGNER, habitat biologist, was recently hired to plan, develop and design habitat projects that restore or enhance areas in the Methow River Subbasin. These projects will benefit native anadromous or resident fish species. Wagner will be required to review data, survey reports, and provide analysis of the data to staff. In his position, he will be required to develop budgets for proposed projects and work collaboratively with representatives from outside agencies and non-government organizations as well as local and regional stakeholders in an effort to improve habitat quality.

Wagner worked as the aquatic resource director for Environmental Assessment Services prior to working for CTFW. In this position, he provided oversight of the aquatic portion of the DOE Public Safety and Resource Protection Program at the Hanford site, and worked on the NOAA research vessel in the Gulf of Mexico in response to the BP oil spill were just some of his duties. Wagner has over thirty years of experience as a fish biologist and earned his bachelor's in fisheries management from the University of Washington.

GARY JOSEPH was recently hired as the accounting manager for CTFW. In his position, he will be responsible for planning, directing, and evaluating a $35 million annual operating budget. His duties include accounting, budgeting, forecasting and financial reporting. He will assist staff with accounting issues and provide solutions. Joseph will be responsible for general ledger transactions, invoicing, accounts payable, procurement, payroll, travel, fixed assets and insurance for the department. Joseph was the operations division director for the Colville Tribe prior to working for CTFW.

Joseph earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Washington and a master's in leadership from the Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona.

KRISTEN COLES, wildlife biologist II, was recently hired to conduct and monitor habitat restoration activities on the eastside Wildlife Management Areas (wildlife lands within Ferry County, approx. 25,000 acres). Coles' position requires that she document land management activities and collect, record, interpret, and report the data. She will also track project budgets, submit grant applications, present findings to technical and general audiences and provide leadership for assigned wildlife technicians. In her previous position, she worked for the Warm Springs Tribes as the Forest Conservation Area habitat manager and monitoring biologist.

Coles attended Washington State University and earned a bachelor's degree in wildlife management and a bachelor's degree in Spanish, minoring in range management.

NICOLE NOLAN accepted the position as the Lake Roosevelt habitat biologist. Nolan's duties include implementing professional biological studies, research, and providing analysis and assessment of fish, lands, and habitat management data. Her position assists in implementing a variety of projects, including habitat monitoring and restoration work. While implementing field projects designed to improve or create fish habitat, she coordinates these projects with tribal, federal, private and other agencies.

Prior to working for the tribe, she worked for Utah State University as a research assistant. Nolan earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York and a master's in ecology from Utah State University.