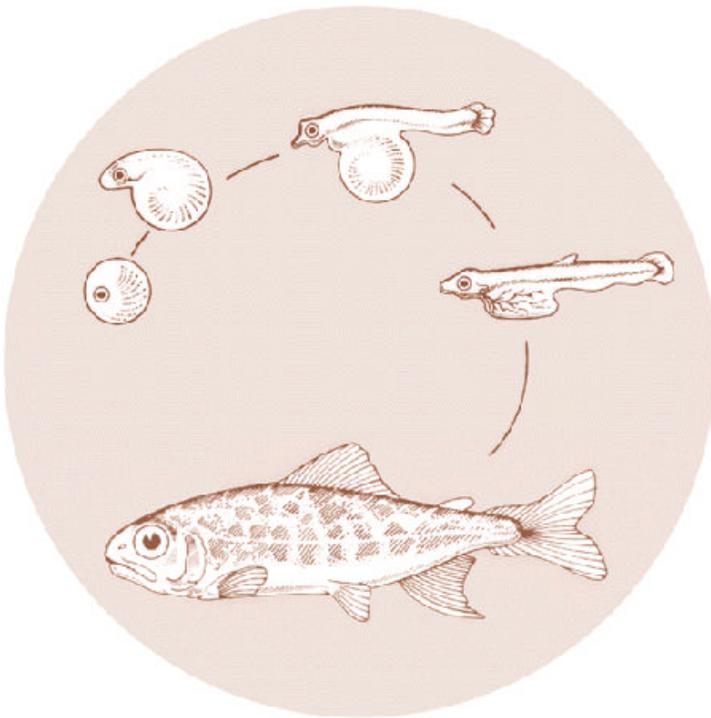


August 2001

NEZ PERCE TRIBAL HATCHERY PROJECT

Annual Report 1999



DOE/BP-00004504-1



This report was funded by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), U.S. Department of Energy, as part of BPA's program to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the development and operation of hydroelectric facilities on the Columbia River and its tributaries. The views of this report are the author's and do not necessarily represent the views of BPA.

This document should be cited as follows:

Johnson, David B., Roy Edward Larson, Grant W. Walker - Nez Perce Tribe, 2001, Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery Project Annual Report 1999, Report, Report to Bonneville Power Administration, Contract No. 00004504, Project No. 198335000, 31 electronic pages (BPA Report DOE/BP-00004504-1)

This report and other BPA Fish and Wildlife Publications are available on the Internet at:

<http://www.efw.bpa.gov/cgi-bin/efw/FW/publications.cgi>

For other information on electronic documents or other printed media, contact or write to:

Bonneville Power Administration
Environment, Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 3621
905 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97208-3621

Please include title, author, and DOE/BP number in the request.

**NEZ PERCE TRIBAL HATCHERY PROJECT
ANNUAL REPORT
1999**

Prepared by:

David B. Johnson,
&
Roy Edward Larson
&
Grant W. Walker

Nez Perce Tribe
Department of Fisheries Resources Management
P.O. Box 365
Lapwai, Idaho 83540

August 17, 2001

Prepared for:
U.S. Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration
Environment, Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

Project Number: 83-350
BPA Contract Number: 97 AM 30423
Task Order Number: 97 AT 39492

NEZ PERCE TRIBAL HATCHERY PROJECT: 83-350
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
1 JANUARY 1999 - 31 DECEMBER 1999

INTRODUCTION: This report consists of activities/events conducted in response to the Objectives and Tasks described in the 1999 contract Statement Of Work for the Planning and Planning and Design (P&D) and Maintenance (O&M) activities of the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery (NPTH). The report follows the format of the contract for ease in finding accomplishments. Although specific emphasis will be placed on activities related directly to the NPTH, activities from other artificial production related projects might also be noted because of overlap in staff duties and production facilities. Additionally, the project leader's role has evolved as other Tribal fisheries projects have been developed and assigned to the Production Division, Department of Fisheries Resource Management (DFRM), and Nez Perce Tribe (NPT). Thus, implementation of the project leader role for the NPTH actually entails specific duties of the Production Division Director and the Production Division Coordinator, as well as the Hatchery Division Coordinator.

OBJECTIVE 1. COORDINATION: This activity is divided into three specific areas involving: interagency coordination with on-going production issues, coordination in regards to Endangered Species Act issues, and coordination in regards to funding processes.

Task 1.1 Coordinate supplementation planning and with the following agencies: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE), Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northwest Power Planning Council (NPPC), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and private entities through one or more of the following forums: technical work groups, hatchery production management meetings, NPPC hatchery review committees, intergovernmental agreements (NPT/IDFG, 1992 Memorandum Of Agreement), *U.S. v. OREGON* Production Advisory Committee (PAC) or Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), other technical and policy meetings, and progress reports .

Response:

U.S. v. OREGON Coordination: The Columbia River Fish Management Plan (CRFMP) is the result of a court ordered settlement agreement in the U.S. v. OREGON lawsuit. The lawsuit established, among other things, that the four principle Columbia Basin tribes reserved a treaty right to 50% of the harvestable fish runs in the Columbia River. The CRFMP provides a framework within which the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation (CTWR), Yakama Indian Nation (YIN) and the United States exercise their sovereign powers in a coordinated manner to protect, rebuild, and enhance upper Columbia River fish runs while providing harvest for both treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries. The CRFMP specifically provides for harvest management guidelines and fish production measures that will accomplish the rebuilding goals, in addition to identifying methods for the parties to coordinate and resolve disputes. The CRFMP expired at the end of 1998, but it was agreed to extend until July 31, 1999.

The new plan (as well as the old plan) identifies fish production measures (e.g. numbers and species of fish produced per hatchery for the short and long term, release location and objective of the releases) in the basin. There are many BPA direct-funded hatcheries, for example the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP) and other BPA Fish and Wildlife Program (FWP) production initiatives (including: NPTH, Northeast Oregon Hatchery and Johnson Creek Artificial Production Enhancement) that will be subject to renegotiation and implementation within the CRFMP, and thus requires Nez Perce Tribal staff participation in the process. For the most part, the Production Coordinator provides the Tribe's Fisheries staff coordination and participation in the U.S. v OREGON process with funding provided under this and the other production related contracts.

During 1999 technical staff continued to refine alternative strategies developed in 1998 that would meet the production goals of each of the parties in the many subbasins of the Columbia River Basin. A format for display was agreed upon and presented to the policy group for use in renegotiation of the CRFMP. The policy group took no further action after presentation by the production work group in June.

Also during this time, fisheries staff participated in monthly policy/legal meetings, which focused on developing shorter-term agreements to cover the allocation of harvest by the parties. Production proposals were included in all the fishery agreements and tended to be the most contentious issues for the managers to reach agreement on.

The Production Advisory Committee (PAC) is the "hatchery production arm" of the CRFMP. It consists of technical representatives of the State, Federal, and Tribal governments meeting on a monthly basis to coordinate production issues affecting the Columbia Basin. Issues on which the parties disagree (e.g. using hatchery fish for supplementation purposes) can end up being resolved in court. In 1999, several Nez Perce Tribal issues occupied PAC's agenda and the implementation of fishery agreements through U.S. v. OREGON:

- \$ The Nez Perce Tribe again went to court on a dispute regarding the use of surplus hatchery steelhead returning to the Imnaha River. The Tribe proposed releasing a number of the fish into Lightning Creek and State of Oregon disagreed. Lightning Creek was determined to be an appropriate outplants area in the lawsuit won by the Tribe in 1998 regarding use of surplus Imnaha returns. Because the 1999 surplus of Imnaha stock never materialized, the parties voluntarily dismissed this dispute.
- \$ The Tribe again secured spring chinook destined for Lookingglass Hatchery for broodstock for NPTH releases. The fish were released at Lookingglass Hatchery as juveniles, but concern over genetic appropriateness (the stock origin is Rapid River Hatchery) in the Grande Ronde results in the fish being trapped at Lower Granite Dam and not permitted to return to that river. However, the stock is appropriate in the Clearwater River, which makes the fish a good candidate for NPTH broodstock.

This year, these fish were one of the most abundant returns to the Snake Basin. The Tribe shared the broodstock with IDFG and USFWS to assist these agencies who lacked broodstock returns to their facilities.

- \$ The Tribe, through a fall fishery agreement, requested and received 500,000 smolts and approximately 1,000,000 eggs for a coho restoration program in the Clearwater Subbasin.
- \$ The Tribe, through a fall fishery agreement, secured the following steelhead releases:

1) IDFG and USFWS agreed to release 550,000 Dworshak stock steelhead into tributaries of the South Fork (S.F.) Clearwater River and Lolo Creek for supplementation purposes. An additional 100,000 steelhead from “natural timing” Dworshak returns would be released for broodstock development of the supplementation program. Also, 250,000 steelhead would be released into natural production areas of the S.F. Clearwater River that would have both harvest (ad-clipped) and supplementation purposes (no clip).

2) IDFG agreed to release 200,000 Oxbow stock steelhead into the Little Salmon River for supplementation purposes.

3) ODFW agreed to release 100,000 Imnaha stock steelhead into Little and Big Sheep Cr. for supplementation purposes.

\$ Finally, the Tribe secured the release of 3,135 adult Dworshak steelhead into Clearwater River subbasin streams; 300 to Mill Creek, 576 to Newsome Creek, 540 to American River all S.F. Clearwater and 1,231 Lolo Creek for supplementation purposes (Table 1). In addition; 300 adult Oxbow stock steelhead into the Little Salmon River for supplementation purposes by IDFG; and 41 adult Imnaha stock steelhead into Big Sheep Creek for supplementation purposes by ODFW (not included in Table 1 as they are not within Clearwater subbasin).

BPA Coordination: Weekly meetings are conducted by the core team, at which BPA’s Contracting Officers Technical Representative (COTR) is present. The COTR has been involved in every aspect of the development of the hatchery.

\$ During the first quarter, the 1999 budget was reviewed and modified to include carryover costs and a justification, and then finalized in March. The budget was first submitted in August 1998. In June, the NPTH contract modification requested \$178,000 from BPA for Sweetwater Springs and the Wilson property purchases for satellite facility sites.

\$ In August, negotiations were initiated for a no-cost budget modification. A spreadsheet was submitted which identified the need to transfer dollars between salaries, consultants, supplies and equipment. In September, a NPTH “no-cost” budget modification was revised and resubmitted to BPA. A third version of a “no-cost” budget modification was submitted in November. This spreadsheet detailed changes to supplies, staff organization and needs by month, equipment details, and consultant details. A fourth request for the “no-cost” budget modification was submitted in December. These budget modifications are time consuming using over 25% of lead-personnel’s time.

\$ De-obligated \$178,000 from NPTH budget back to BPA for Sweetwater Springs and Wilson property purchases. Submitted memo and draft resolution for NPT Natural Resource committee approval.

\$ In May, a project tour was provided for BPA Administrator, Judi Johansen.

Table 1. Nez Perce Tribe 1999 fish outplant schedule as per rearing locations, species, brood year, release date, life-stage numbers, CWT, PIT tag, Ad-clip, and release location.

Rearing Location	Species	Brood Year	Release Date	Life Stage	# Fish	#CWT	# PIT	# ADCLIP	Outplant Location	Comments
Willard	Coho	97	3/16	Smolt	39,489	39,489	0	39,498	Lapwai C.	CWT# 61-26-04
Willard	Coho	97	3/16	Smolt	25,205	25,205	0	0	Lapwai C.	CWT #61-26-05
Willard	Coho	97	3/16	Smolt	225,473	0	1,500	0	Lapwai C.	
Willard	Coho	97	3/18	Smolt	25,086	25,086	0	25,086	Potlatch R.	CWT# 61-26-03
Willard	Coho	97	3/18	Smolt	25,010	25,010	0	0	Potlatch R.	CWT# 61-26-06
Willard	Coho	97	3/18	Smolt	228,086	0	1,500	0	Potlatch R.	
				TOTAL	568,349	113,790	3,000	64,584		
Dworshak	Coho	97	4/26-30	Smolt	55,568	55,568	400	0	Clear C.	CWT# 61-26-07
Dworshak	Coho	97	4/26-30	Smolt	190,000		400	0	Clear C.	
				TOTAL	245,568	55,568	800	0		
Jaype Mill	Coho	98	3/1-30	Fry	3,000	0	0	0	Quartz C.	No Marks
Potlatch	Coho	98	3/1-30	Fry	27,000	0	0	0	Mission C.	No Marks
				TOTAL	30,000	0	0	0		
Clearwater	Coho	98	7/7-8	Parr	150,000	0	1,523	0	Meadow C.	PIT-Tag Only
Clearwater	Coho	98	7/14-15	Parr	125,000	0	1,540	0	Eldorado C.	PIT-Tag Only
Clearwater	Coho	98	7/12-13	Parr	175,000	0	1,500	0	Potlatch R.	PIT-Tag Only
Clearwater	Coho	98	7/7-8	Parr	30,000	0		0	Meadow C.	
				TOTAL	480,000	0	4,563	0		
Clearwater	Spring	97	3/19	Smolt	74,638	19,695	1,000		Newsome C.	CWT# 10-53-04
						54,943	0	0	Newsome C.	CWT# 10-51-32
Clearwater	Spring	97	3/19	Smolt	40,000	19,695	1,000		Mill C.	CWT# 10-51-16
Clearwater	Spring	97	3/30	Smolt	150,001	26,819	1,113	0	Lolo C.	CWT# 10-51-12
Clearwater	Spring	97		Smolt		55,886	0	0	Lolo C.	CWT# 10-51-34
Clearwater	Spring	97		Smolt		55,895	0	0	Lolo C.	CWT# 10-51-31
Clearwater	Spring	97		Smolt		11,401	0	0	Lolo C.	CWT# 10-51-03
Clearwater	Spring	97	3/22-26 3/30-31	Smolt	300,021	0	1,117	300,021	Meadow C.	
Clearwater	Spring	97	4/6-7	Smolt	104,280	43,784	0	0	Boulder C.	CWT# 10-51-17
						40,190				CWT# 10-51-18
						20,306				CWT# 10-51-49
				TOTAL	668,940	348,614	4,230	300,021		
Dworshak	Spring	98	7/29	Parr	60,200	60,200	0	0	Mill C.	CWT# 61-26-15
Dworshak	Spring	98	7/29	Parr	50,200	50,200	0	0	Newsome C.	CWT# 61-26-14
Dworshak	Spring	98	8/3-5	Parr	177,722	177,722	0	0	Meadow C.	CWT# 61-26-16
				TOTAL	288,122	288,122	0	0		

Rearing Location	Species	Brood Year	Release Date	Life Stage	# Fish	#CWT	# PIT	# ADCLIP	Outplant Location	Comments
Sweetwater Springs	Spring	98	7/19-21	Parr	250,285	250,285	0	0	Lolo C.	CWT# 61-26-13
				TOTAL	250,285	250,285				
Kooskia	Steel-head	98-99	3/4	Adult	405			405	Mann's Lake	IDFG assisted
Kooskia	Steel-head	98-99	3/5	Adult	101			101	Robinson Pond	IDFG assisted
Dworshak	Steel-head	98-99	3/11 & 3/17	Adult	300			300	Mill C.	S.F. Clearwater
Dworshak	Steel-head	98-99	3/17-29	Adult	576			576	Newsome C.	S.F. Clearwater
Dworshak	Steel-head	98-99	3/10 & 4/1	Adult	540			540	American R.	S.F. Clearwater
Dworshak	Steel-head	98-99	4/2-29	Adult	1,213			1,213	Lolo C.	S.F. Clearwater
				TOTAL	3,135	0	0	3,135		
GRAND TOTALS				SMOLTS	1,482,857					
				PARR	1,018,407					
				FRY	30,000					
				ADULTS	3,135					

Coho Management Plan: Production planning for coho salmon was incorporated into the NPTH budget in 1998. In their letter to BPA dated November 13, 1998, the NPPC stated that this approval would initiate the first step in the Three-Step process required for production projects funded under the Fish and Wildlife Program. During 1999, a draft production plan for coho was developed and Mitchell Act funding was sought and secured to produce coho. The following activities occurred for this document;

- \$ February 4th, meeting in Lapwai with Cramer and Witty to discuss their progress on the plan, models and objectives.
- \$ March 1st, submitted a first stage draft Clearwater Coho Master Plan to NMFS in response to a term and condition of the biological assessment.
- \$ March 9th, this document was also submitted to the PAC co-managers for their review.
- \$ May 10th, meeting with NMFS and Potlatch Forest Industries to discuss concerns with coho reintroduction program being implemented on Potlatch-owned lands. In addition, potential for developing an acclimation site on Potlatch lands was also discussed.
- \$ May 27th, submitted a Statement of Work to accompany the budget already sent to NMFS in the fall of 1998 to secure Mitchell Act funding for the program.
- \$ June 7th developed and discussed with research and production staff a short term plan for implementing the coho program in the Clearwater.
- \$ August 5th, received comments from PAC co-managers on the first stage draft Clearwater Coho Master Plan, most revolved around determining results of test actions prior to launching into a full production.
- \$ August 12th, meeting with Witty to discuss comments on draft and develop a strategy for a phased approach for coho production.

- \$ September 17th, meeting with NMFS to discuss interim strategy - to be implemented while long term, phased approach that addresses co-managers and budgetary process concerns is being developed. NMFS approved, and the co-managers were notified.
- \$ November 19th, found that Mitchell Act funding would be forthcoming, but had to be spent within 1999.
- \$ December 15th, letter sent to NMFS requesting follow-up in regards to the Potlatch issues discussed in May.

IDFG Coordination: A spring outplant meeting was held on February 17th, and a spring coordination meeting was held on March 17th. Issues focused on ongoing production efforts for the Clearwater basin hatcheries. Rearing, marking, and release schedules were proposed and coordinated and fish health concerns discussed. In addition, an up-to-date accounting of steelhead returns occurred and predictions for spring chinook returns were refined.

A fall coordination meeting was held on November 18th. At the fall meetings, events of the past field season were recounted, which include chinook weir and redd counts, actual fish released in the spring and difficulties encountered. Tentative predictions were made for steelhead returns and potential fisheries management implications - including broodstock needs discussed.

Two significant 1999 issues were the Rapid River spring chinook harvest and sharing the Lookingglass Hatchery-Rapid River broodstock with IDFG and the USFWS to make up for shortfalls in their programs. The issue was the focus of the NPT/IDFG spring policy meeting held in Lapwai on June 12th. Several letters were exchanged and the local newspaper covered the issue. In September, the NPT provided eggs from 60 females (240,000 eggs) to IDFG's Rapid River Fish Hatchery, eggs from 100 females (400,000) to IDFG's Clearwater Fish Hatchery and eggs from 40 females (160,000) to the USFWS Dworshak Fish Hatchery (see newspaper article). The NPT used the eggs from 100 females (400,000) for supplementation purposes under the NPTH.

Other 1999 State and Tribal coordination centered on the transfer and sale of Sweetwater Springs Hatchery site to BPA for developing NPTH. That item is discussed more fully in the response to Task 2.2.

USFWS Coordination: USFWS staff also participates in the outplanting and spring coordination meetings mentioned above.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was developed between the USFWS and the NPT in 1998 to provide fish rearing capabilities at Dworshak National Fish Hatchery (DNFH) and Kooskia National Fish Hatcheries (KNFH). The MOA describes the responsibilities of each of the parties for using these hatcheries and provides a mechanism to transfer funding from one entity to the other. The MOA was revised, approved, and signed by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) on December 9, 1998.

In 1999, the MOA was revised again as the USFWS set forth a new federal condition requiring pre-payment prior to providing services.

Task 1.2 Participate in consultation with NMFS to address Section 7 terms and conditions for NPTH and to acquire Section 10 permits as necessary. Participate on production coordination committees required by NMFS to meet the Recovery Plan for salmon and address the listing of

Snake River steelhead. Complete a genetic benefit/risk assessment as required by NMFS to address supplementation of fall chinook.

Response: Tribal staff reviewed and provided comment on the NMFS hatchery biological opinion for 1999. The final biological opinion was released on April 2nd, and all NPT production projects were evaluated. The biological opinion did reach a “jeopardy” conclusion, which was based on operations of steelhead hatcheries, not NPT production efforts.

The Benefit: Risk Assessment (BRA) for NPTH was submitted to NMFS on March 1, 1999. Discussions were held with NMFS staff on May 20th to review the assessment. Comments were provided by NMFS on July 8th and a response was submitted by CRITFC on August 11th. It is assumed that CRITFC’s response to NMFS comments concluded the consultation on the assessment. No further communication from NMFS was received.

Funding for coho production in 1999 was requested from NMFS and approved under the Mitchell Act budget.

A meeting was held between NMFS and Potlatch Forest Industries in May to discuss implications of outplanting coho on streams running through Potlatch lands. Potlatch was asking for assurances from NMFS that coho would not become listed under the ESA. They were also concerned with potential detrimental effects on steelhead caused by interactions with coho, which would then be used to limit their activities. NPT staff brought up the fact that NMFS had specifically evaluated the effects of coho and steelhead in their biological opinions and did not conclude that they would cause jeopardy to the steelhead.

In July, NMFS agreed to a proposal by NPT to not require an adipose clip on spring chinook released into the Selway River. The fish would be coded wire tagged only; no fin clips would occur.

In August, a meeting was held between CRITFC Tribes, the USFWS and NMFS to discuss progress on issues of mutual agreement. At that meeting, the ISRP funding recommendations on artificial production projects critical to restoration of listed species were highlighted. NMFS committed to providing comments to the NPPC encouraging continued funding of these programs, and a letter was sent from Will Stelle (NMFS) to Todd Maddock (NPPC) on October 21st.

On October 22nd, NMFS science staff from Seattle (Usha Varanashi and Michelle McClure) made a presentation to NPT staff on their Cumulative Risk Initiative.

Task 1.3 Participate as necessary in the CBFWA Five Year Implementation Plan Steering Committee, NPPC Fish and Wildlife Program amendment process, and other budget processes.

Response: NPTH staff, Ed Larson and Grant Walker, represented the NPT in this forum. Project summaries and budgets were submitted representing NPTH project. These team members in coordination with State and Federal personnel attended about 6 meetings in various locations (Boise, Portland) to discuss, review, and make recommendations for funding fish and wildlife projects.

Task 1.4 Attain necessary approvals, Step 3 of the three-step process, from the Northwest Power Planning Council.

Response: Frequent coordination and interaction occurred with the NPPC and its staff during 1999. These interactions can be grouped into four principle categories: coordination and information, submittal of the Final Design, FY2000 proposal response, and revision of the Final Design.

Coordination and Information:

- \$ January 7th, a presentation on the progress of Final Design (30%/60% stage) was made to the NPPC in Portland.
- \$ A meeting was held with NPPC staff, Mark Fritsch, in March to discuss research and production and to provide an aerial tour of production sites, including North Lapwai Valley. In addition, a meeting was held with NPPC members Cassidy and Bloch to discuss the capital cost budget, the possibility of moving the central facility from Cherrylane to Allotment 1705, the communications plan to transfer information and the Value Engineering study results application to 1705.
- \$ April 5th, a briefing was held for Mike Field, NPPC member in Boise, Idaho.
- \$ April 21st, a briefing was held for Todd Maddock, NPPC member in Lewiston, Idaho.
- \$ May 21st, a meeting was held with Bloch, Karier, Brogoitti, NPPC members in Lapwai, Idaho to discuss the progress of NPTH and other tribal projects.

Submittal of Final Design:

- \$ May 3rd, the Final Design was submitted to the NPPC for review and approval. It proposed a construction cost of \$32 million and addressed the information requested in the NPPC letter of November 13, 1998. Designs were 100% complete for 3 facilities, 70% complete for 5 facilities and 50% complete for 2 facilities. Completion date for all facilities was scheduled for September.

FY2000 Proposal Response:

- \$ February, the FY2000 proposal was submitted to the NPPC and BPA.
- \$ June 15th, the ISRP released its recommendations on the proposals to the NPPC. NPTH received a recommendation of "Do Not Fund". Thereafter, an incredible amount of time was spent responding to the recommendation. A detailed review of the ISRP's comments indicated a bias against hatcheries, poor reading of the proposal, a lack of understanding of some basic cultural relationships in the Pacific Northwest, and a lack of understanding of the review process established for fish hatcheries.
- \$ July 6th, a 12 page point-for-point response for NPTH was submitted to the NPPC that explicitly addressed the ISRP's concerns.
- \$ July 8th, an all day meeting was held with the NPPC staff to discuss the review, our response and the feedback loop.
- \$ July 20th, a presentation was made to three of the NPPC members (Cassidy, Etchardt, and Grace) in Spokane to discuss the response.
- \$ August 25th, a policy level meeting was held between NPPC and NPTEC to discuss the NPPC recommendation on the project.
- \$ October 29th, a recommendation by the ISRP of "Do Not Fund" was made in the feedback loop.
- \$ November 10th, the Tribe submitted a second response that expressly adheres to the ISRP's concerns.

Revision of Final Design:

- \$ August 5th, a meeting is held between DFRM Manager, Si Whitman, and NPPC staff in which the Council expresses concerns about the cost of the project (\$32 million). The NPPC staff highlighted elements from that discussion that needed to be addressed prior to reaching agreement on the project. These include being low cost, small footprint, and downsizing the project to meet limited funding resources, having a strong Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) component, and being able to begin construction by 2000.
- \$ August 16th, a Lapwai meeting with NPPC staff, CBFWA staff and core team members to discuss concerns with cost, and displaying a phased approach to the NPPC.
- \$ August 25th, a policy level meeting was held between NPPC and NPTEC to discuss the NPPC recommendation on the project.
- \$ September 10th, a Portland meeting with NPPC staff in which the NPPC states that it is waiting for some response from the core team in relation to size and cost of the project in addition to issues arising from the ISRP review - specifically in relation to the M&E component.
- \$ September 29th, letter from Bob Lohn to Si Whitman identifies concern with the project is not meeting the "low cost/small scale" language of the authorizing program measure; that the M&E plan must be reviewed by the ISRP, and asks that revised submittal of the final design address three topics: 1) a justification of the budget discrepancies, 2) on-site review of the M&E data, and 3) provide complete final design of all facilities.
- \$ October 15th, meeting in Lapwai with NPPC staff in which the core team presents a proposal for a phased approach, that it believes meets those aspects requested in the September 29, Lohn letter. The identified cost is \$22 million for the first phase. Lohn committed to taking the proposal back to the NPPC and query for response.
- \$ November 10th, meeting in Port Orchard with NPPC staff in which a capital construction target of \$16 million is discussed. The NPPC was willing to approve the project, but they wanted to reduce the cost and they wanted the ISRP to approve the M&E plan.
- \$ November 24th, letter from Si Whitman to Bob Lohn outlining a revised phased approach proposal that meets the \$16 million target and addresses the requests for information identified in the November 10 meeting.
- \$ November 30th, NPPC Fish and Wildlife Committee reviewed November 24 submittal and found it to be responsive to the elements the Council sought to have addressed. However, no commitment was made to future expansion because the Council did not feel it could obligate future councils to its decisions.

Task 1.5 Coordinate with the USFS to complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis that meets the needs of the special use permits for satellite facilities on USFS lands.

Response: On February 9th, a meeting was held in Grangeville to review the 30%-60% designs for NPTH. The issues included concerns about the Newsome Creek acclimation site in relation to the extensive mining claims on that creek; the need for a new site on Mill Creek to avoid riparian impacts; and water availability at Cedar Flats. It was disconcerting to the core team to be approached with these major concerns considering that the USFS had been a cooperating agency on the Environmental Impact Statement for the last three years.

Beginning in February, work was begun on developing an arrangement with the individual having a mining claim on Newsome Creek that would allow proceeding with the project. The issue requires the USFS to make a determination on competing uses for area with claims under the 1872 Idaho Mining Law.

In March, investigations began on evaluating Boyd's Creek as a substitute for Cedar Flats because of surface water intake problems. This site was later rejected because of additional NEPA requirements that would result and questions regarding a reliable water supply and the USFS's reluctance to do away with a public camping at this site.

Also in March, the practicality of a Meadow Creek weir and rearing pond are discussed. After designs are developed and discussed with the USFS in September, the primary concern is with the capability of handling extreme flows and the detrimental visual effects of the weir. In December, after a presentation on the revised weir design and analysis of effects, the USFS accepts the Meadow Creek weir and acclimation design.

April 21st, investigations began on evaluating a new site for the Mill Creek facility. The design was confirmed in mid May.

In early May, a request was received from the USFS for road plans, types of structures, etc. to begin the Special Use Permit process for Yoosa/Camp. FishPro, Inc.(FPI) was assigned to the project and site plans and a schedule were submitted to the Clearwater National Forest a week later. Designs were discussed at a Kamiah meeting in early June.

OBJECTIVE 2. FACILITY DEVELOPMENT: Final design is expected to be underway by March 1999, contracting and construction should begin in May 1999. The NPT role will be to ensure that the NATURES biological requirements as defined in planning documents are implemented in final design and construction.

Task 2.1 Complete the Final Design process for NPTH two central incubation and rearing facilities and six satellite facilities.

Sub-task 2.1.1 Assist BPA with directing the Final Design of NPTH Central Incubation and Rearing Facilities and associated satellite facilities.

Response: Much of the progress under this subtask was related to other tasks or subtasks. Task1.4, related to coordination with the NPPC, was driving the developments in this task because of the efforts to arrive at an approved concept and cost for the final design. Task 1.5, related to coordination with the USFS was also related to the development of the sites on National Forest lands.

January

- \$ Lukes Gulch Title status report to Marion Walcott, BPA.
- \$ Two day meeting in Seattle with FishPro, Inc. (FPI) to review 30% and 60% design documents including: site plans for Allotment 1705, Meadow Creek, Sweetwater Springs, and Cedar Flats. Also reviewed procedures and use of formalin at satellites and 1705.
- \$ Staff attended Idaho Land Commission Meeting in Boise. A presentation was prepared to discuss NPTH needs and use for Sweetwater Springs but the issue was dropped from agenda because the Attorney General had questions about the surplus status of Sweetwater Springs.
- \$ L.Heimgartner, lessee of Allotment 1705 was contacted in regards to lease arrangements during site evaluation.
- \$ Nez Perce County Road Supervisor approved new road alignment at Sweetwater Springs.
- \$ The option to purchase the F.J. Wilson property (which is necessary to provide the most cost-effective access to Lukes Gulch) was approved by BPA. Water rights surveys being conducted by FPI.
- \$ Staff met with Jerry McGeehee, IDFG Clearwater Hatchery Manager, to review adult holding raceway designs.

February

- \$ IDFG held a hearing on a land auction for Sweetwater Springs at the Lewiston office; the Idaho Land Board approved the sale at auction. Staff coordinated with BPA, NPTEC and Idaho Department of Lands to insure completion of the sale.
- \$ Capital construction costs estimates were developed for the future 5 years period.
- \$ Staff coordinated with the BIA and Tribe on 1705 land transfer issue. A letter was sent to the allottees, updating progress and suggesting a meeting to discuss progress on the well explorations and soil studies.
- \$ Test production well #1A at Site 1705 was completed to a depth of 420 ft.
- \$ An agreement was mediated between FPI and NPT Cultural Resources to allow limited excavation at Sweetwater Springs to lower fill costs.
- \$ A meeting has held with FPI to discuss expansion potential of hatchery
- \$ Staff discussed seed mixes, sensitive species, sediment in Newsome Creek and problems concerning Meadow Creek weir with the Forest Service.

March

- \$ Meetings were held with the BIA, the Tribe, and with the Core Team to discuss acquisition of 1705. A contract was developed with Mrs. Ellenwood to identify and contact allottees. A meeting was held with interested allottees to discuss progress on the project and potential lease/sell.
- \$ Sweetwater Springs land auction was held at IDFG office in Lewiston. (Apparently, the water rights were lost by IDFG according to Ken Noblock, Idaho Department of Water Resources, because of 5-year period of inactivity).
- \$ Met with FPI in Lapwai concerning 1705 landowners and drilling operations at 1705 by Layne Christianson Drilling Company.

April

- \$ Two day meeting in Seattle with the Core Team to review 90% drawings.
- \$ BPA purchased Sweetwater Springs at IDFG auction in Lewiston for \$114,000. Staff assisted BPA with deed and title work.
- \$ Staff worked on developing an easement with the Lukes Gulch site private landowner to access the site.
- \$ Well drilling at Site 1705 had problems with cave-in, drilling tool caught and lost in well resulting plugging the well.
- \$ An easement was requested to develop a new railroad crossing at Site 1705.
- \$ Meetings were held with Cecil Daniels (owner adjacent to 1705) to discuss access for a well on his property adjacent to Site 1705.
- \$ Staff met with Jerry McGeehee to discuss equipment needed for NPTH. An equipment list that was used for Clearwater Hatchery was received and adapted to NPTH.

May

- \$ NPTH Site 1705 Core Team held a workshop to ensure that all hatchery facilities are being developed correctly. Of special concern is the development of ground water supplies and assurance that we have located all possible ground water. Some conflict with adjacent landowners is resolved. The group develops questions regarding estimating the feasibility and cost of pumping water from old Cherrylane site to Site 1705. Those costs will be developed.
- \$ Site 1705 well development report received from Ralston and reviewed.
- \$ Several items occurred in relation to the lease or purchase of Site 1705. Mrs. Ellenwood continued with her landowner contacts, and her list identifies at least 42 owners (of the 50

total) willing to sell. A meeting was held with allottees discussing the project and an offer to purchase or lease 1705. A BPA appraisal of the property was concluded, with the total value set at \$517,000. A draft letter proposing an offer to purchase was sent to the Executive Director and NPTEC Land Services Subcommittee chair for comments. This purchase offer from the Tribe was never sent out; instead the BIA sent out a letter making the offer later in July. Additionally, BPA declared that they would not approve additional well drilling at 1705 until owners committed to selling.

- \$ Core Team meeting was held at Seattle to finalize satellite facility design for Yoosa/Camp and North Lapwai Valley; and to discuss changing fall chinook production, administration building design; and to justify declining certain value engineering recommendations. The 90% design plans for Sweetwater Springs were also reviewed and approved.

June

- \$ The Lewiston Morning Tribune published an article about Sweetwater Springs.
- \$ Sweetwater Springs water right application was submitted by both NPT and BPA
- \$ A Core Team meeting was held to decide whether to pump water from Cherrylane Ranch, located across the river from 1705. This would add \$1.2 million in construction costs and more than double pumping costs. The Team decided to use 'explosive- fracturing' in 1705 wells to increase production.
- \$ Inquiries were made into Nez Perce County Zoning, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the BIA Portland Area Office concerning status of aquaculture in relation to agriculture. The local interpretation of BIA leasing was that, for uses other than agriculture leases, 100% landowner consensus was required.
- \$ The NPTEC Land Commission recommended the Tribe purchase available interest in Site 1705, and NPTEC passed a resolution authorizing the action.
- \$ The BIA completed their appraisal of Allotment 1705 land and valued the property at \$408,696.
- \$ A request was sent to the Executive Director for the Tribe to dedicate the exclusive use of Allotments 606 and 1595 for NPTH (North Lapwai Valley and Luke's Gulch, respectively).

July

- \$ The purchase offer for Allotment 1705 was edited and sent to the BIA, who made the official offer to allottees, on behalf of the Tribe to purchase available interest in the allotment.
- \$ A Core Team site review involving BPA and NPT office of legal counsel was conducted at Site 1705, North Lapwai Valley; Luke's Gulch, and Big Canyon to evaluate future use and cost issues related to leasing or purchasing Tribal owned lands for NPT. Jack Bell, NPT Land Services helps with developing solutions to these issues.
- \$ Received written response from Tribal Archaeologist, Jason Lyon, allowing limited excavation at Sweetwater Springs and forwarded this information to the FPI staff.
- \$ FPI staff estimated cost for Meadow Creek to be \$1.1 million when juvenile rearing pond is added.
- \$ NPTH Core Team meeting at Red Lion to review results of ground water investigations at 1705. Also decided to re-use water from hatchery building to support fall chinook acclimation ponds and supplement this water with oxygen. Stewart McCormack and his brother, owners of the 21-Ranch, objected to several parts of Sweetwater Springs construction plan including rerouting the road and an improved personnel access to the springhouse.
- \$ Meeting with M&E staff and FPI at Spokane, concerning Meadow Creek weir. Agreed to continue from conceptual design to final design using collapsible pickets.
- \$ FPI staff reported the wells at Luke's Gulch could provide adequate water for production plans.

\$ Tribal staff discussions were held regarding addressing the size and cost of NPTH.

August

\$ Discussions were held with BPA Environmental Analysis staff in regards to further NEPA review associated with revised site plans.

\$ A presentation on NPTH was given at a Washington State University fish culture conference.

\$ A meeting was held with the Site 1705 owners (including the Pendleton owners) as a result of contacts with owners made by Mrs. Ellenwood.

\$ Several Core Team calls and a meeting in Lewiston were held to reduce construction cost from \$31.3 to between \$18m - \$20m using guidelines from Aug. 2nd & 16th meetings with NPPC.

September

\$ A Core Team meeting was held in Seattle. Viewed presentation from Vaki Company on their remote fish counting device. Reviewed design plans for all sites; 1705 is at 60% but groundwater exploration must be completed before final design can be completed. It was decided to drop adult holding at Meadow Creek due to the high expense of constructing a surface water intake and pipeline. Total cost for NPTH is now reduced to approximately \$21million.

\$ NPTEC Natural Resources subcommittee was asked to approve phasing in NPTH to meet NPPC requested cost reductions. The tribal committee refused.

October

\$ Work continues on NPTH redesign to address costs.

\$ The issue of phasing in NPTH is again taken up with NPTEC Natural Resources subcommittee; this time there is agreement to proceed.

\$ Purchasing process for Site1705 is proceeding. BPA agrees to proceed with well drilling following a commitment by the Tribe to purchase the allotment ownerships.

\$ A Memorandum of Agreement is being developed between BPA and the NPT attorneys. The MOA will identify how long-term lease arrangements and construction and operation of the hatchery will occur.

\$ Coordination is ongoing with owners of the Sweetwater Springs head box in relation to their plans.

\$ Discussions occur with FPI in regards to protocols for selecting a construction contractor. A local business is claiming that an agreement with the Tribe allows them sole source on construction. The Tribe denies this assertion.

\$ In preparation for surcharging SWS, all equipment is being removed and stored at the Tribe's Sweetwater Compound. Proposal for quotes sent to contractors. Starting surcharging now will allow construction at Sweetwater Springs to start much earlier.

\$ An effluent management meeting is held at Lewiston with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), BPA, FPI and NPT. Presentation and discussion of methods of managing effluent from NPTH facilities. Agreements are reached between EPA, IDEQ and NPT on jurisdictions and permit requirements with regard to "on-reservation" versus "off-reservation" sites. EPA Region 10 is responsible for all water quality issues on the reservation. IDEQ and EPA will cooperate to ensure that tribal sovereignty is not challenged via Idaho State water discharge quality permit requirements.

November

- \$ Well drilling at Site 1705; Ralston report on wells at Site 1705 giving details on temperature and volume estimates.
- \$ Instream 404/401 Permits being reviewed in anticipation for future construction activities.
- \$ Site 1705 owners willing to sell along with Mrs. Ellenwood respond to purchase offers; we determine that 52% to 82% want to sell; the NPT proceeds with developing purchase options.
- \$ An NPTH Core Team meeting is held in Seattle to discuss the proposed weir for Meadow Creek, an Obermeyer type. Discussed operations, method to address USFS comments, bridge for cleaning pickets, operation of air bladder, removing boulders, etc. Also discussed architecture for 1705 hatchery building. A second time, it is confirmed that the Meadow Creek weir must be dropped to cut capital construction costs.
- \$ A second Core Team meeting with the NPTH-M&E staff and NMFS research staff discussed methods to test efficacy of NATURES rearing, and what parts of NATURES should be kept in the facility cost-cutting exercise.
- \$ FPI received bids to surcharge Sweetwater Springs construction site. Bids not opened because NPPC staff instructed BPA not to proceed with construction actions until final, Step-3 Approval authorizing construction is given by the NPPC.
- \$ A third Core Team meeting, following the meeting with NPPC, begins the process to achieve construction costs of \$16million. FPI discusses designing temporary rearing tanks for Lukes Gulch and Cedar Flats, similar to the Fall Chinook program's Big Canyon facility (e.g., portable head-tank, circular tanks, above ground intake and drain lines, etc.).
- \$ At Site1705, Layne Christianson supervised 'explosive-fracturing' of wells #1 and #4. High explosives are set off at desired depths within the well causing fracturing of the rock. The fracturing then releases water in these zones and increases the well pumping capacity.

December

- \$ Dr. Ralston's reports on well development recommend casing well #1, #2, #3, #4;
- \$ The Wilson property (Lukes Gulch) lease is continued to hold purchase option for another year. Tribal staff recommends proceeding with purchase to avoid additional costs; BPA hesitates as they are unsure project will be approved by NPPC.
- \$ Site 1705 applications for purchase are completed, and the BIA superintendent has agreed to sign leases for Allotment 1705 estates.
- \$ Core Team concurred with the FPI recommendation to relocate ponds at North Lapwai Valley site to a north/south orientation vs. the original east/west direction to reduce cut and fill, thus reducing construction costs.
- \$ Water rights are secured for North Lapwai Valley well water, but are still pending for Cedar Flats, Lukes Gulch and Site1705. The 404/401 Instream work permit application will be ready in two weeks.

Sub-task 2.1.2. Complete leading the NATURES Design Team for Final Design of NPTH Central Incubation and Satellite Facilities.

Response: Although the NATURES Design Team had concluded their duties in 1998, some team members met with NMFS representatives in Seattle on November 5, 1999 to discuss prioritization of NATURES components and incorporation of NPTH M&E plan in accordance with the \$16.0 million construction cost cap. Personnel present are Jay Hesse, Grant Walker, Ken Ferjansic, Walt Dickoff, John Colt, Barry Berejerkian, Tom Flagg, and Des Maynard. At that meeting, the 60%/30% design documents were reviewed and found to be consistent with the direction given by the NATURES Design Team.

Sub-task 2.1.3 Provide coordination between BPA, NPT and Cherrylane landowners with regard to water rights negotiations and other related development activities associated with leasing or acquisition.

Response: In January, Ed Larson met with Don Kerby, Cherrylane Corporation and Tom Wolcott, BPA Real Estate Division regarding NPTH site development. This meeting determined that NPTH would no longer pay a land lease at the Cherrylane Ranch to reserve a site for hatchery construction and therefore this site was abandoning both land and water developments. Ground water potential at Cherrylane had been estimated at 5,000 gpm. (11.1 cfs). This ground water supply should be kept in mind for future expansion of NPTH as it is less than a mile from Site 1705.

Task 2.2 Finalize the USFS permitting process necessary to develop satellite facilities and weirs on National Forest lands in ensuing years at the following sites;

- \$ Lolo/Yoosa site in Lolo Creek, and
- \$ Newsome Creek and Mill Creek, South Fork Clearwater River, and
- \$ Cedar Flats, lower Selway River.

Response: Response to this task is presented in Task 1.5. The USFS special-use permit issue will continue to be worked on throughout 2000 and concludes with obtaining the permit only a month before actual construction begins when the USFS adopts the BPA-NEPA EIS.

Task 2.3: Coordinate with BPA and the Engineering Design firm to finalize design and costs for all facilities, develop and implement construction contracts and schedules, and implement a construction process for 1999 to 2003.

Response: Response to this task is presented in Task 1.4, 1.5 and 2.1.

OBJECTIVE 3. HATCHERY OPERATIONS DEVELOPMENT: This objective addresses introductory, intermediary and advanced fish culture and fish health skills development for NPT personnel to provide certification as well as on-job-training. This objective also includes components of NPTH broodstock and equipment acquisition prior to facility completion.

Task 3.1: Finalize a written hatchery annual operations guideline in conjunction with construction of the Central Incubation and Rearing Facilities (CIRF) and satellites.

Response: An Annual Operation Plan (AOP) will be written at a later date after facilities are constructed and no further changes to production occur. It is anticipated that this plan will be developed as construction comes to a close. The DFRM staff has assisted in the development of AOP's for other Snake Basin hatcheries (Northeast Oregon Lookingglass Hatchery and the Lyons Ferry Hatchery Complex). We anticipate this experience will benefit developing the NPTH-AOP plan.

Task 3.2: Continue the "experienced-based" training program at other regional hatcheries for NPTH staff.

Response: A fish production summary shown in Table 1 demonstrates the program involving NPTH future staff who are receiving "on-the-job" training. Tribal staffs work as "laymen" fish

culturists at Sweetwater Hatchery, DNFH, KNFH, and CFH rearing coho and chinook salmon. At times more than twenty personnel were being trained in this manner along with high school and college interns. Three to four full-time employees served “on-station” at each facility during 1999. Alternating shifts of two-employees per shift provided seven-day-per-week coverage. Supervision was provided by DFRM staff as well as by Dworshak Nation Fish Hatchery (DNFH) staff. Tribal employees gained hundreds of hours of fish culture training “egg-to-smolt” in preparation for operation of NPTH.

Rearing of coho salmon provides an excellent opportunity for training because a single group of fish could be assigned specifically to the Tribe’s care, and could be followed throughout their entire rearing cycle including adult returns within a 3-year period. Using a 5-year life-cycle species (i.e. steelhead or spring chinook) for training purposes would require segregation of a program lot in order to allow for consistent care by Tribal trainees and would be more difficult and inconsistent with USFWS protocols. The NPTH contract provided only manpower costs associated with on-the-ground training for fish culture. Food, supplies, materials and transportation costs for the coho was not provided under the NPTH.

Duties performed by DFRM staff at DNFH included the following (from the Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service):

- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for all phases of fish culture for tribal fish held at the Service facilities. This includes cleaning, feeding, sampling, treating, hauling and releasing.
- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for taking care of fish culture equipment in tribal work areas, including equipment storage and general clean up.
- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for making arrangements for feed orders, chemical supplies for treatment, delivery and storage.
- \$ The Tribe will keep all records and report forms on tribal fish in the format and manner used at DNFH and provide copies of each to the Service.
- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting hatchery rearing containers including egg trays, nursery tanks, outside rearing ponds, after tribal use.
- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for coordinating any fish marking with the Service.
- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for acquiring all applicable and relevant fish and egg transportation permits between states and for all applicable and relevant permits associated with releases under the Endangered Species Act.
- \$ The Tribe will be responsible for coordinating Tribal fish health needs and for periodic fish health examination by the Dworshak Hatchery Fish Health Center.

Although the fall chinook program operates under a separate contract, its employee-training program integrates personnel and equipment with the NPTH program. In this manner, it provides an opportunity to reduce costs and share equipment; as such it should be mentioned. DFRM staffers that would normally be employed under the NPTH contract are seasonally hired by the fall chinook program to tend these fish. Two of the fall chinook stations (Pittsburg Landing and Big Canyon) are portable facilities requiring similar set up and take down each year. Thus, the staff receives experience with temporary facility operation that requires working out many difficulties associated with portable equipment, in addition to feeding and caring for the fish. Two NPTH satellite facilities will also be portable and operate seasonally; Lukes Gulch and Cedar Flats sites.

Sub-task 3.2.1: Provide personnel and materials to rear and release juvenile and adult salmon at existing state and federal hatcheries until NPTH can be constructed; e.g., Clearwater, Dworshak, and Kooskia hatcheries.

Response: See Task 3.2 above. In addition, DFRM were involved in a large production effort in 1999. A summary of fish reared and released is presented in Table 1. DFRM coordination and direction of the releases was accomplished largely through this contract, although other production occurred under other project funding. Production efforts funded under NPTH were conducted at Dworshak and Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (DNFH and KNFH) and Clearwater Fish Hatchery (CFH).

Willard National Fish provided 568,349 coho smolts that were imported under the CRFMP agreements and funded through BIA-638 contract. Their release occurred in the Potlatch River and Lapwai Creek on the lower Clearwater River as direct releases in mid-March.

DNFH and KNFH in a cooperative agreement with the NPT reared approximately 245,000 Brood Year 97 (BY'97) coho salmon were reared to smolt size at Dworshak Hatchery and transported to Kooskia Hatchery for acclimation and released in early May 1999. In addition, approximately 350,000 BY'98 coho salmon eyed-eggs from Eagle Creek Hatchery were brought to Dworshak Hatchery at the end of 1998 where they were incubated, and reared throughout 1999 and will be released in the year 2000 as smolts.

A salmon recovery public awareness project with the Potlatch Corporation Pulp and Paper Workers Union incubated and released 30,000 coho fry in a program involving workers and local school students at Quartz and Mission Creeks on the Clearwater River. In this program the workers provide all materials, supplies, and transportation costs.

Also in 1999 approximately 100,000 BY'97 spring chinook were reared and released as parr into two of the NPTH streams, Boulder and Warm Springs Creek. Rearing care, coded wire tagging, and the fish health needs of these fish were provided by IDFG staff in coordination with DFRM. In addition, DFRM staff PIT-Tagged, out planted, and provided food, materials and supplies for the spring chinook under the NPTH contract.

Clearwater Hatchery: Under a cooperative State and Tribal MOA with IDFG at a nominal cost of approximately \$5,000 salmon are produced at this hatchery for NPTH and the training of Tribal staff. For 1999 production, Clearwater Hatchery incubated and reared upwards of 480,000 coho parr for mid-summer releases into streams as a supplementation strategy to restore coho populations in the Clearwater subbasin. The intent is to provide more than one supplementation method with prolonged natural conditioning to restore natural spawning populations. Spring chinook surrogate production for NPTH also occurs at this hatchery until the NPTH facilities are constructed; 668,940 smolts were reared and released to provide future broodstock here in 1999. Spring chinook parr were also reared at DNFH (288,122) and Sweetwater Springs (250,285) and released into Clearwater River tributaries to aid in providing future NPTH broodstock. These management actions help work toward solving the old management question: "where will the NPTH spring chinook broodstock come from?"

Adult steelhead outplants (Figure 1.) also became a part of the program when area hatcheries had surplus numbers; 3,135 of these fish were outplanted to area tributaries in a cooperative program



Figure 1. Adult Steelhead Outplant from Dworshak Hatchery

with the USFWS and IDFG. This exercise fulfills the U.S. v. OREGON and CRFMP agreements between the Tribes, State, and Federal fishery managers. It is also a part of the annual coordination occurring between the NPT and regional managers found in Objective 1, Coordination.

For the Clearwater Fish Hatchery (Figure 2), as well as the Sweetwater Springs programs, actual transportation and outplant of the fish is a significant effort. Fish are not simply released by opening up a raceway outlet. For these programs the program often begins in the night or early morning hours. To begin, the fish must be

crowded in the raceways, loaded onto tanker trucks by hand or using a special pump, then hauled to remote areas where they are either dispersed by hand-dip-net at many different locations from the trucks, or off-loaded into a special transport bucket and airlifted by helicopter into wilderness area streams.



Figure 2 Clearwater Hatchery

The helicopter operations are the most logistically intensive and complex. Helicopter loading sites must have space and elevation that allows the helicopter safe access and space for truck access at the same time. These sites must have stream water supply for loading the helicopter transport bucket of the same temperature as the target stream where the fish releases will occur. This is important as temperature, oxygen levels, handling, and the combined transport time induce stress on the fish, which can reduce post-release survival.

The equipment necessary to provide water, oxygen, and exact fish loading weight per both truck and helicopter transport has to be set up

in advance. The fish production staff must coordinate simultaneous activities occurring at the shipping and receiving end in order to be effective.



Figure 3. Parr Outplant, Upper Selway River

In 1999, helicopter outplants accounted for 150,000 coho parr from CFH and 30,000 coho parr from DNFH in early July. Off-site rearing, transport and release have been a significant part of the DFRM program, and the young staff has become experienced in these difficult operations (Figures 3 & 4).

In addition to being responsible for fish releases directly under their control, DFRM staff assisted in the release of experimental, captive-broodstock fish reared at Clearwater Fish Hatchery and trucked and flown to the upper reaches of the Selway River in April and September.



Figure 4. Parr Outplant, Upper Selway River



Figure 5. Coho Spawning at Dworshak Hatchery

Coho Restoration Response: In 1999, coho returns counted at Lower Granite Dam were 271 adults. Of those 208 were captured at the Dworshak hatchery (Figure 5.) and at weirs on Potlatch River, Lapwai Creek, and Clear Creek (Appendix B). Eighty-eight females were spawned for broodstock (Table 2). These are the first coho adult returns from NPT Clearwater coho re-introduction releases that initiate the use of a “new-generation” Clearwater River broodstock. This is a significant restoration milestone in restoring a specie that became extinct in 1927 when the Lewiston Dam blocked fall migrating species. Broodstock and juvenile production

capabilities were not available for 1997 and 1998 although the first 100+ Clearwater adult supplementation returns were recognized at Lower Granite Dam in those two years. Spawning the 1999 adult return provided 209,650 eggs; they were used to begin phasing-out the “out-of-basin” broodstock donors.

Table 2. Coho broodstock collection and spawning records for 1999.

YEAR	ADULT FEMALES	FEMALES SPAWNED	TOTAL EGGS	ADULT MALES	JACKS	CAPTURE TOTALS
1999	107	88	209,650	103	6	216

The Nez Perce Tribe has worked with the NMFS, USFWS, and IDFG to develop a short-term strategy for coho releases, and this proposal is consistent with that strategy. In addition, the coho production program was described in NMFS=Snake River Basin Hatchery Biological Opinion.

Sub-Task 3.2.2: Define skill/training levels for hatchery production staff through a written training program.

Response: While a written training program would be useful and could serve to help with staff certification, we do not presently have the educational institution certification to do so. Instead, experience-based training under professional NPT, IDFG, and USFWS staff is utilized to develop employee fish culture skills. We are working with local and distant colleges to eventually develop a certification program; i.e., Northwest Indian College, Lewis & Clark State College, University of Idaho.

Sub-Task 3.2.3: Initiate a training certification process through the USFWS programs; e.g., Coldwater Fish Culture, Pacific Salmon Culture, Introduction to Fish Health, Water Quality Monitoring.

Response: While this occurred in 1998, the USFWS program was not available in 1999.

Task 3.3: Promote broodstock acquisition activities to provide broodstock availability at project start-up for each salmon species: i.e.,

Sub-Task 3.3.1: Work within U.S. v. OREGON PAC to coordinate broodstock acquisition.

Response: As described in the response to Task 1.1, adult spring chinook returnees to Lookingglass FH were secured for NPTH through requests made in U.S. v. OREGON PAC.

Sub-Task 3.3.2: When broodstock sources are available prior to NPTH construction, Sweetwater Springs Hatchery will be operated on a temporary basis to incubate eggs and produce parr for outplant to streams identified in the Supplement to the Master Plan. Broodstock sources are limited which necessitates taking advantage of any opportunity to acquire them.

Response: Operations of Sweetwater Springs are described in the response to Task 3.2.1

Task 3.4: Obtain and operate equipment necessary to support fisheries production operations to procure future broodstock opportunities.

Response: An ambitious program was begun in 1997 to acquire “non-permanent” fish culture equipment needed to operate the NPTH program during this interim period and for the long term. (Figure 6.) An equipment list is provided to BPA as equipment inventory requirement in the annual accounting report to BPA.



Figure 6. Heavy Transport Trucks and Equipment

OBJECTIVE 4. RISK MANAGEMENT: Includes areas that involve 1) habitat protection, 2) cultural resource protection, and 3) revision and implementation of the monitoring & evaluation plan.

Task 4.1: Monitor, review, and comment on USFS and other agency activities in streams and watersheds where NPTH supplementation has been planned; take appropriate actions to protect watersheds crucial to this project.

Response: Staff continue to monitor and evaluate other agency actions to land and stream habitat on which fish are dependent within the Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forests. In addition, COE permits allowing stream alterations are monitored. Support staff, Win Perez and Mark Oatman are operating recording-thermographs and taking stream flow readings at various sites involving the project.

Task 4.2: Coordinate cultural resource protection prior to and during construction of hatchery and satellite facilities with NPT Cultural Resources Department and BPA.

Response: A contract was developed with NPT Cultural Resources Department to provide cultural resource monitoring of the final design process. Jason Lyon, NPT Cultural Resources, has provided a work statement and budget for these services. Several meetings have been held with the USFS to ensure that appropriate action and protection is in place at each satellite site. This action provides a coordination process between BPA, NPT, and the Forests. Additional negotiations will occur as the project is developed.

Task 4.3: Coordinate with and provide information to the monitoring and evaluation program for NPTH on production, timing, transportation, rearing and release of species evaluated.

Response: The Monitoring and Evaluation annual report will detail activities for that program, but a brief summary of coordination is provided here. All marking and tagging is conducted by the M&E program and as such, fish size, and antibiotic feeding must be closely coordinated and timed around release dates. Handling required in marking and measuring, in addition to the marking itself, stresses the fish and that in-turn lowers post release survival. Because there are multiple groups of fish spread throughout many rearing locations, and most fish lots are released at similar sizes and dates, the M&E and Production staffs communicate almost daily during the spring and early summer.

The M&E program ultimately reports on the success (or lack thereof) to the production staff. They determine the survival, growth and return rate of out planted fish. In addition, staff collect information on the biological characteristics of naturally produced conspecifics (fish) (e.g. emigration rates and sizes, spawn timing and locations) such that the Production Division will know how to mimic natural fish size, weight, color, etc.

The M&E staff has also taken a very active role in the outplant activities themselves. They collect instream samples (density and species composition) prior to releasing fish, and provide extra manpower for helicopter or truck transport operations as needed.

Task 4.4: Provide a multi-species fisheries management plan encompassing the Nez Perce Treaty Territory and relating NPTH production in the Clearwater subbasin.

Response: The Tribe's DFRM staff has not yet developed this task.

Sub-Task 4.4.1: Prepare a completed long-term management plan all species with a detailed plan for one species; i.e., coho salmon through S.P. Cramer and Associates.

Response: S.P. Cramer and Associates developed a draft document for coho restoration through supplementation for the NPT. That document has not been released by the NPT for public review.

Sub-Task 4.4.2: Prepare improved format for Multiple-Year-Implementation Plan and the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) review through consultant Philip R. Mundy.

Response: This task no longer is relative to this contract and current NPPC Fish and Wildlife planning in the Columbia basin and therefore will not be written.

OBJECTIVE 5. REPORTS: Transfer of Technology.

Task 5.1: Prepare and provide report summarizing all tasks outlined in Objectives 1 through 4 above.

a.) Prepare three quarterly progress reports. Reports shall be submitted 15 days after the end of each quarter. The three quarters will be March 31, July 31, and September 30. The fourth NPTH quarterly report will only be prepared if an annual report is not requested by the project BPA COTR.

b.) Prepare an annual report. The annual report will be submitted by February 28th and will include, but not be limited to:

1. Abstract.
2. Introduction.
3. Description of project area.
4. Methods and materials.
5. Results and discussion of results obtained from year's work.
6. Summary and conclusions.
7. Summary of expenditures, including a list of major property purchased during the fiscal year.
8. Supplemental volume or appendices that contain detailed summaries of all data collected.

Response: The final report format may be modified as needed to reflect the information collected and results generated over the course of the previous year. The Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery project leader and the BPA COTR would determine this. Presently, the BPA COTR, Ken Kirkman has requested that only an annual report be provided to fulfill Objective 5.

REPORT SIGNATURE PAGE: NPTH 1999 ANNUAL REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by:

Roy Edward Larson
Director, Production Division, DFRM, NPT.

David B. Johnson
Production Coordinator, DFRM, NPT.

Grant W. Walker
NPTH Hatchery Coordinator, DFRM, NPT.

Approved by Nez Perce Tribe: NPTEC Administrative Action August 28, 2001

APPENDIX A: Acronym List

1. AOP	Annual Operation Plan
2. BRA	Benefit: Risk Assessment
3. BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
4. BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
5. CFH	Clearwater Fish Hatchery
6. CRFMP	Columbia River Fish Management Plan
7. CRITFC	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
8. COTR	Contracting Officers Technical Representative
9. COE	Corps of Engineers
10. CTUIR	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
11. CTWSR	Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation,
12. DFRM	Department of Fisheries Resource Management
13. DNFH	Dworshak Nation Fish Hatchery
14. EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
15. FPI	FishPro, Inc.
16. IDEQ	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
17. IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
18. KNFH	Kooskia National Fish Hatchery
19. MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
20. M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
21. NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
22. NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
23. NPTEC	Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee
24. NPTH	Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery
25. NPT	Nez Perce Tribe
26. NPPC	Northwest Power Planning Council
27. O&M	Operations and Maintenance
28. ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
29. P&D	Planning and Design
30. USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
31. USFS	U.S. Forest Service
32. PAC	<u>U.S. v. OREGON</u> Production Advisory Committee
33. TAC	<u>U.S. v. OREGON</u> Technical Advisory Committee
34. WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
35. YIN	Yakama Indian Nation

APPENDIX B: NPTH 1999 Annual Report



Nez Perce Tribe
 Department of Fisheries Resources
 Management

FINAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR NEZ PERCE TRIBE COHO TRAPPING 1999

Table 1. Cumulative capture summary of coho salmon at Nez Perce Tribe coho salmon weir sites and other trap locations.

	Total # of Adults	Total Jacks	Total Adult Male	Total Adult Female	CWT Adult Male	CWT Adult Female	CWT Jack	Trap Mort
Lapwai Creek	9	0	4	5	1	0	0	0
Potlatch River	19	1	10	9	0	0	0	0
DNFH ladder	100	5	55	45	8	13	0	0
Clear Creek	56	0	20	36	5	10	0	2
Lolo Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eldorado Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*Other	5	0	1	4	0	1	0	0
<i>Subtotal</i>	189	6	90	99	14	24	0	2
Lyons Ferry Hatchery	19	0	7	12	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	208	6	97	111	14	25	0	2
**L.GraniteDam	271	29	-	-	-	-	-	-

* - see Table 4.

** - fish passage counts over Lower Granite Dam for 1999 (personal comm. Steve Richards – Adult Fish Passage Center).

Table 2. Cumulative capture summary of fall chinook salmon and steelhead at Nez Perce Tribe coho salmon weir sites.

	Total # of Adults	Total # of Jacks	Adult Male	Adult Femal e	CWT Adult Male	CWT Adult Female	CWT Jack	Trap Mort
Lapwai Creek								
- FACH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- steelhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Potlatch River								
- FACH	6	12	5	1	1	1	5	1
- steelhead	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Clear Creek								
- FACH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- steelhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lolo Creek								
- FACH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- steelhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eldorado Creek								
- FACH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- steelhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 3. Mark summary for fall chinook salmon captured at Potlatch River weir site.

	No Marks	AD Clip Only	CWT / AD Clip	CWT / AD Clip / Green Elastomer (side unknown)	AD Clip / Green Elastomer
Male	3	0	1	0	1 (side unknown)
Female	0	*1	*1	1	*1 (left side)
Jack	4	2	0	5	1 (left side)

* - carcasses that were found downstream of the weir

Table 4. Cumulative carcass recovery of coho salmon in the Clearwater River and tributaries.

	Total # of Adults	Total # of Jacks	Adult Male	Adult Female	CWT Adult Male	CWT Adult Female	Recovery Location
Lapwai Creek	1	0	1	0	0	0	150 yrds downstream from weir
Potlatch River	2	0	0	2	0	1	- 1.3 miles upstream from mouth - 1.0 mile upstream from mouth
Clearwater R.	2	0	0	2	0	1	- Hog Island (RM 9) - McGill Hole (RM 40)
<i>TOTAL</i>	5	0	1	4	0	2	

Table 5. Operation dates of Nez Perce Tribe coho salmon weir sites and other trap locations.

	Opening Date	Out-of-Service Dates	Closing Date
Lapwai Creek	10/01/1999	11/25/1999	12/12/1999
Potlatch River	10/01/1999	11/25 – 11/28/1999	12/12/1999
DNFH ladder	10/01/1999	-	12/16/1999
Clear Creek	10/01/1999	10/9 – 10/11/1999 & 11/25 – 11/29/1999	12/12/1999
Lolo Creek	10/01/1999	-	11/26/1999
Eldorado Creek	10/01/1999	-	11/26/1999

NOTES:

- All coho captured at Lapwai Creek, Dworshak National Fish Hatchery (DNFH) ladder, and Clear Creek were used as broodstock during spawning activities conducted at DNFH.
- 1 female coho captured at Potlatch R. weir was transported to DNFH and used as broodstock.
- 10 male, 8 female, and 1 jack coho captured at Potlatch River weir were released upstream of the weir.