



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Jordan River NFH Accomplishment Report

Partnerships and Accountability

M/V Togue Hosts Guest Riders (Addendum to the January through April report)



The lake trout release trip scheduled for April 29, from Cheboygan to Bois Blanc Light and Goose Island Shoal, on the M/V Togue had four guests. One of the guests was the bridge operator for the state operated bridge in Cheboygan, Michigan; another was a retired postal worker and the remaining two were sport fishermen. During the trip the guests were also given a tour of the Mackinac Island Harbor. Due to cold weather, guests

that were signed up for another trip did not show up. Every year we will continue to have the general public take a ride on the Togue, especially in Cheboygan because of the relationship with the community Bob Bergstrom and Mike Perry have developed.

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

2003 Fish Distribution Completed

Distribution of Brood Year 2002 lake trout was completed on June 27. We released a grand total 1,983,190 fish weighing 186,402 pounds into Lakes Michigan and Huron. This could not have been accomplished without the assistance of our cooperating hatcheries. Therefore, we would like to express our gratitude to John Johnston and Steve Redman of the Iron River NFH, and Crystal LeGault and John Shuman of the Pendills Creek NFH for their assistance with truck driving. Special thanks also go to boat personnel Mike Perry (Captain) and Robert Bergstrom (Engineer), and to Nick Grueneis (Iron River NFH) and Jeff Lockington (Genoa NFH), who volunteered to care for fish in transit on the Togue. Following is a summary of this year's distribution:

LAKE MICHIGAN TOTALS				LAKE HURON TOTALS			
LOT#	NUMBER	NO/LB	WEIGHT(lb)	LOT#	NUMBER	NO/LB	WEIGHT(lb)
GLW-02-HIF	72,968	9.3	7,875	LLW-02-SAR	158,256	9.6	16,421
LLW-02-SAR	376,100	10.5	35,767	SLW-02-HIF	578,767	9.7	59,881
SAW-02-HIF	429,332	11.6	37,106	SMD-02-HIF	96,285	10.0	9,625
SIW-02-MN	154,892	13.4	11,577				
SLW-02-HIF	116,590	14.3	8,150				
	1,149,882	11.4	100,475		833,308	9.7	85,927

Lake Trout Transferred to Pendills Creek NFH

As part of our normal production commitment, we raised approximately one million lake trout fingerlings for transfer to the Pendills Creek NFH. The transfer of these fish occurred on May 19, May 27, and June 18. Following is a summary:

LOT#	NUMBER	NO/LB	WEIGHT(lb)
LLW-03-SAR	516,669	375.8	1,375
SLW-03-HIF	527,000	305.7	1,724
	1,043,669	336.8	3,099

The fish were hauled to Pendills Creek by staff from Pendills Creek and Jordan River during down days in the distribution season.

Inspection of Six-Tile Water Supply



Pollution Control Services (PCS), of Kalkaska, MI, examined the Six-Tile spring water collection complex on July 15 and 16. PCS used a video camera mounted within a waterproof case with interchangeable wheels (for different pipe diameters) to look for breaks that would lead to flow reduction. The camera was connected to a control station via a power/video cable. A remodeled ambulance housed their equipment. Considering the age of the pipe system, it was in good condition without major breaks or separation. One section of pipe had collapsed, but it was one of the uppermost collection pipes. Groundwater that would have been collected in that pipe is likely instead being collected downhill as surface water. In light of these findings, the reduction in flow through the collection system is probably due to a drop in the water table.

Annual Six-Tile Cleanup



The Six-Tile water supply is dredged and pumped out annually to reduce the accumulation of bacteria-laden sediment, and thereby, reduce the risk of disease. It typically takes one to three days depending upon the amount of debris. The area above the head dam is first dredged with the use of the Bobcat and bucket attachment. Then Bob Petersen dons his wet suit and vacuum pumps out the fine sediment. Six Tile supplies approximately 3,000 gpm of water and the temperature ranges from 42-49° F.



Public Use

Highlights of tours and outreach events:

- For the second consecutive year, Jordan River National Fish Hatchery attended the Traverse City Match and Science Workshop on May 20. The workshop focuses on water quality issues across the Great Lakes. Rick Westerhof provided a presentation about the hatchery program and potential water quality impacts on the Jordan River. The presentation was given twice during the day long event to middle and high school students. The students come from all over the Grand Traverse Bay area as part of the Water Watch program and focus on science.
- Rick Westerhof and Wayne Talo provided a hatchery tour to fifteen first and second grade kids and four adults from the Concord Academy Antrim on May 23. The kids learned a little bit about fish culture, invasive species, and basic fish anatomy. At the end of the tour, we treated them to Goldfish crackers, Capri Sun drink pouches, and lollipops - just enough sugar to make the bus ride home fun.
- Paul Haver gave a tour to approximately twenty Boyne City High School Natural Resources class on May 23.
- Paul Haver provided direction in the dissection of lake trout to ninety-four Eighth Grade students at the Boyne City middle school on May 29.
- On June 5, one-hundred kindergarteners chaperoned by sixteen adults from Gaylord Community School, visited the Jordan River National Fish hatchery. After a brief welcome and introduction, the children were divided into four groups of twenty-five. The groups then rotated between four different locations on the hatchery grounds. The locations included the visitor's center, tank room, metal building, water source, raceways, and a video. At all locations the children were given the opportunity to ask questions and share their knowledge of fish. In the visitor's center, the children received a narrative about hatchery operations as they viewed the pictures and models which illustrate key points from hatching to distribution of fish. Since the kindergarteners were too short to peer into the tanks in the basement, they were taken out to the metal building to see medium size fish. From the metal building, the kindergarteners hiked up to the source of the hatchery's water. There they observed the manner in which the water flow is directed from the stream to the hatchery. When the kindergarteners went down to the raceway they were allowed to feed some fish. In addition to the aforementioned activities, the kindergarteners had a snack and watched a short segment about the hatchery from the local television show "*Hook and Hunting*" hosted by Dan Boss. The segment featured the process of coded wire tagging the fish. Just before the kindergarteners left they were given a fish hatchery coloring



book. Overall the kindergarteners were excited to be at the hatchery, albeit tired at the end from the walking. A few days later the classes sent a thank-you note and a book of pictures the kindergarteners drew of the hatchery.

- On June 27, Danielle Miller, Rick Westerhof, and Wayne Talo provided a tour to eight fisheries students from the Aquatic Biology class at the AuSable Institute.

Highway Clean-up

Jordan River NFH personnel continued their efforts as part of the Adopt-A-Highway program on July 17. The two mile stretch of adopted highway runs past the hatchery on US-131. Fifteen bags of trash were collected from the site. In addition to the familiar fast food bags, cups, and cigarette butts, a microwave door was found on the highway shoulder. Clean-up organization was the combined effort of Clarice Beckner and Robert Petersen. This is this the second year Jordan River NFH has taken part in the Adopt-A-Highway program and we look forward to continuing our contribution to the program.

Cooperation with Native Americans

Rick Westerhof and Dave Huntly provided a tour to three fisheries biologists from the Little Traverse Bay Band during late May. The Little Traverse Bay Band plans to build a new lake trout production facility on some Tribal land near Petoskey, MI. They were visiting the hatchery to learn more about the culture of lake trout.

Leadership in Science and Technology

(nothing to report)

Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

(nothing to report)

Workforce Management

STEP Student Spending the Summer at the Jordan River NFH



On June 16, Danielle Miller began working at the Jordan River NFH as part of the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP). She will be assisting the hatchery staff with the care and feeding of lake trout and numerous maintenance projects.

Danielle is a recent graduate of Hillsdale College (Michigan). She is pursuing a career in the medical profession. In mid-August she will be attending the School of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. Danielle is the hatchery's third STEP student. The program has been instrumental in supplying quality individuals to assist staff during a time of critical personnel shortages.

Summer Internship Program



Eric Semer, second-year aquaculture student from Hocking College (Ohio), began his internship here on June 23. His role has been to gain practical experience in cold water fish culture and to provide assistance with grounds and facilities maintenance and record keeping. Eric's work has been much appreciated. His internship will be completed on Labor Day.

Hatchery Staff Takes Advantage of Web-Based Training Offered By NCTC

Clarice Beckner, Administrative Technician at the Jordan River NFH, recently completed two web-based training courses offered by NCTC. This is the first time EAGLS Basic and EAGLS Cost Allocation courses have been offered. EAGLS is a computer system that performs a variety of administrative and accounting tasks involving Bank of America credit card accounts.

Both classes were very informative. With budget and travel concerns, the hatchery hopes to take advantage of similar web-based training in the future.



Recognition Picnic

On July 16, Jordan River NFH personnel gathered for a picnic to recognize the contributions of Tony Martinek, Rolland (Moose) Kotz, Mark McCool and Harry Budzinski to the hatchery. All four emergency hires aptly aided hatchery staff with fish culture, building maintenance, as well as the maintenance of the hatchery grounds. Martinek's presence provided much needed assistance in the continuous effort to stay ahead of the fast growing algae on the outside raceway walls. Kotz, on the other hand, was inside, preparing the residence houses for occupation. McCool assisted with general fish culture and maintenance. Budzinski filled in for the Togue's Marine Engineer, Bob Bergstrom. This was the first time in thirteen years that Bergstrom was able to leave the Togue during distribution season. Budzinski's service allowed Bergstrom to celebrate his son's high school graduation.

Visit From New Regional Director

The new Regional Director, Robyn Thorson, visited Michigan on June 23. The Director's visit was part of a larger trip to Region Three field stations. As her visit took place during distribution season, Thorson was able to observe the fish loading process as well as the usual morning responsibilities at the hatchery (feeding and cleaning). She spent time listening to suggestions and learning about concerns unique to this hatchery program and field station. Her visit concluded with lunch before she left for the Alpena Fisheries Resources Office. The hatchery staff enjoyed the opportunity to meet her and the black flies thought she was very sweet.