
From: Amanda Cranford - NOAA Federal <amanda.cranford@noaa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:37 AM
To: Brian Ellrott - NOAA Federal
Subject: Re: URGENT ROC LTO-related: Nimbus Hatchery Steelhead Program questions

For both fall-run and steelhead releases - I believe Nimbus has experimented with different in-river release sites (Sunrise, Watt, Howe, Jiboom) to determine which releases result in the best survival. Release sites may change based on environmental conditions, etc.

Based on the release notifications that I receive, I believe 2019 was the first year they shifted the entire steelhead release from Jiboom to Sunrise. And yes, I believe they intend to continue their steelhead releases at that location.

On Wed, Mar 27, 2019 at 10:15 AM Brian Ellrott - NOAA Federal <brian.ellrott@noaa.gov> wrote:
Great Amanda! Thanks.

How long has Sunrise been the release site? Do they intend to continue releasing there?

On Wed, Mar 27, 2019 at 10:11 AM Amanda Cranford - NOAA Federal <amanda.cranford@noaa.gov> wrote:
See responses to your questions below. Let me know if you need more info for any of the questions/answers.

1. What's the status of the HGMP?

We consider the status of this HGMP as "With the Applicant" - which means we have not received a sufficient draft to initiate consultation and the ball is in BOR's/CDFW's court to update and submit a new draft HGMP. CDFW has prioritized the completion of other HGMPs (Feather River spring-run and Mokelumne fall-run HGMPs are first in line) and are not actively working on this one at this time.

2. Is the attached HGMP the latest version?

Yes, I believe this is the last draft we received - which is pretty outdated and likely doesn't meet our sufficiency criteria. BOR/CDFW understand that an updated version will need to be submitted before we will review and initiate consultation.

3. What's the status of the broodstock replacement efforts?

Unfortunately, this effort stalled out as a result of: 1) Drought impacts limiting our ability to collect steelhead from other hatchery programs, and 2) The presence of BKD in Coleman steelhead, which led to the determination that those fish should not be transferred to Nimbus and they likely would NOT be a good source stock to serve as a replacement. This outcome means that the best source of fish for the broodstock replacement effort are the *O. mykiss* above Folsom Dam. Actually capturing these fish

and initiating a new broodstock will be a challenge both logistically and in terms of cost - so I'm not sure when this effort will pick up speed again.

4. Do Nimbus steelhead releases have individual marks other than an ad-clip so they can be identified for straying into other hatcheries or watersheds?

No, however all hatchery steelhead broodstock are genotyped. Work done by Carlos and Devon has allowed for the parentage based tagging of all hatchery-origin steelhead in the Central Valley. Since all hatchery broodstock are genetically sampled - any of their progeny that are subsequently encountered (and determined to be of hatchery-origin by the adipose fin clip) can be tied back to their parents, and therefore their hatchery of origin. This effort has also allowed for a significant reduction in inbreeding that was previously occurring and likely adversely impacting the marine survival of hatchery-origin steelhead juveniles.

5. Are releases still made near the mouth (Jiboom Street)?

This year (March 5-6) all Nimbus steelhead were released at Sunrise Bridge - so in-river, farther upstream.

On Wed, Mar 27, 2019 at 9:07 AM Brian Ellrott - NOAA Federal <brian.ellrott@noaa.gov> wrote:

Hi Amanda,

I'm working on the American River effects analysis for the CVP/SWP BO and have a few Nimbus Hatchery questions:

1. What's the status of the HGMP?
2. Is the attached HGMP the latest version?
3. What's the status of the broodstock replacement efforts?
4. Do Nimbus steelhead releases have individual marks other than an ad-clip so they can be identified for straying into other hatcheries or watersheds?
5. Are releases still made near the mouth (Jiboom Street)?

Sorry, but it would help to have this back by mid-day tomorrow, if not sooner. The Effects section is due tomorrow.

Thanks!
Brian

--

Brian Ellrott
Central Valley Salmonid Recovery Coordinator

NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region
U.S. Department of Commerce
Mobile: 916-955-7628
Office: 916-930-3612
brian.ellrott@noaa.gov

--

Amanda Cranford
Acting Sacramento River Basin Branch Chief
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region
California Central Valley Office
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100
Sacramento, CA 95814
Office: (916) 930-3706
Cell: (916) 600-5410



www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov

--

Brian Ellrott
Central Valley Salmonid Recovery Coordinator
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region
U.S. Department of Commerce
Mobile: 916-955-7628
Office: 916-930-3612
brian.ellrott@noaa.gov

--

Amanda Cranford
Acting Sacramento River Basin Branch Chief
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region
California Central Valley Office
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100
Sacramento, CA 95814
Office: (916) 930-3706
Cell: (916) 600-5410



www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov