

THE 2009 WANNOCK CHINOOK BROODSTOCK COLLECTION AND EGGTAKE & INCUBATION UPDATE JANUARY 19, 2010

The Wannock chinook eggtake took place between October 16th and October 22nd, 2009 with eggtakes on October 19th and 21st. The crew consisted of Marshall Hans of DFO, Ted Walkus from Good Hope Cannery, Dwayne Walkus and Donovan Leblond from C'islayacki and Robert Shaw and Steve Vanbuskirk from the Wuikinuxv Fisheries Program. We were fortunate to have the extra fellows from C'islayacki and Ted Walkus from Good Hope (with Ted adding another year to many in helping out).

A total of 184 Wannock chinook were captured during the broodstock program and a total of 48 females and 51 males were spawned for a total of 288,903 eggs. The number of marked (ad clipped) fish recovered during the eggtake was 11 (the highest in history) and we are delighted at the success of the 2004 and 2005 broods that contributed to this strong showing. These heads have been dissected and the CWT pins removed and read. There were also CWT recoveries in the sport fishery in Rivers Inlet (July/August) and during the Wannock deadpitch which occurred after the eggtake (October 26 – November 19, 2009). The recoveries in the deadpitch were also the highest on record. Table 1 gives a summary of marked fish recovery by biological strategy. Of interest is the distribution of recoveries through all release types and for both age 4 and age 5 fish and that recoveries of netpen fish were higher in the tidal fishery and river releases higher in the broodstock and deadpitch programs.

Fertilization, disinfection and plant of eggs into incubators occurred at Snootli Hatchery where incubation continues. Eggs are currently at the advanced eyed stage of development. They have been shocked, picked (morts taken out) and inventoried. Survival to eyed was 93.9%, at or above bio-standards and the live inventory of alevins on hand is ~271,161. Hatch occurred during late December and alevin development is going well with excellent survival. Incubation continues with heated water through a new re-circulation technology, where water temperature is warmed by the air temperature in the incubation room. It is anticipated that ponding will occur in mid February. Circular tubs located the same building will be used for ponding and initial rearing – taking advantage of the ability to use some heated water.

The cost of the eggtake was less than we expected (with all the extra help) and we have/are using the savings to purchase three aluminum adult holding tubes, replace a net, purchase some eggtake supplies and make some repairs to the eggtake shed at the Spring Pool.



Course, this lunker would not fit in any tube!
Notice that the adipose fin is missing-an age 5 netpen release



Eggtake shed with guy wire to secure it until repairs can be done

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF WANNOCK CHINOOK CWT RECOVERIES IN RIVERS INLET 2009 - BY BROOD YEAR AND RELEASE STRATEGY											
STRATEGY	TAG CODES	BROODSTOCK (10 heads with pins)			DEADPITCH (21 heads with pins)			FRESH WATER TOTAL			TIDAL SPORT
		M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	TOTAL
NETPEN - 5.1gm released Jun13-14 after ~10 days rearing	18-49-45/46	2		2	1	3	4	3	3	6	7
RIVER - 5.45gm released Jun 13- 14 to upper Wannock	18-49-47/48	2	1	3	5	4	9	7	5	12	4
AGE 5 TOTALS		4	1	5	6	7	13	10	8	18	11
NETPEN BIG - 4.28gms released Jun14/06	18-49-49		2	2	1		1	1	2	3	2
NETPEN SMALL - 2.58gms released Jun14/06	18-49-51	1		1	1	3	4	2	3	5	1
RIVER BIG - 3.72 gms released Jun14/06	18-49-50			0		3	3	0	3	3	1
RIVER SMALL - 2.57gms released Jun14/06	18-49-52	1	1	2			0	1	1	2	2
AGE 4 TOTALS		2	3	5	2	6	8	4	9	13	6