

OREHP Advisory Panel Meeting Notes

Los Alamitos, CA

October 20, 2017

Attendees:

Gary Burke	Mike McCorkle	Bryce Semmons	Tony Vaught
Mark Drawbridge	John Riordan	Mike Shane	Chuck Valle
Kathryn Johnson	Jim Moore	Ry Ryvard	Dallas Weaver
Mike Kucura	Mark Okihiro	Jim Salazar	
Randy Lovell	Kirsten Ramey	Valerie Taylor	

Announcement: Tom Barnes retired over the summer. Senior supervisors are acting for him until his position can be filled.

Hatchery Operations (Mark Drawbridge):

- Delay in approval of new hatchery contract
 - Working with Department to get paid for work from July through September
- Typical workplan will be modified to reflect reduction in funding
- Fish production
 - Larger batch of fish in spring and reduced batch in fall
 - Focus in fall will be for the Seabass in the Classroom (SITC) program and research.
 - Fish from research will be used for SITC and limited growout
- Broodstock collection and management needs
 - Removal of oldest fish (~50 fish are 20+ years old)
 - Reducing number of breeding tanks from 4 to 3
 - Establish one group of “young” fish to compare
 - Renovate Catalina site and secure additional funding
 - Look at ways to collect brood fish along the mainland
- Dredging of lagoon delayed
 - Buildup of sand blocking intake pipes
 - Working with NRG (power plant) to extend pipe and install floating intake
 - Fall production run will be set up at Mission Bay to fill in while sand intrusion issue is being dealt with
 - Power plant typically dredges every 2-3 years; will be done in January at the earliest
 - Temporary influent pipe used to maintain broodstock provided by power plant
 - Poseidon desalination plant will take over financial responsibility for dredging when the power plant stops using intake - 2019
- Production summary 2017

- 114,164 white seabass were released so far in 2017
- 360 fish in cages
- 30,000 fish currently at the hatchery will be overwintered and released in 2018
 - Shallow growout sites to release by July 1
- Power outage at King Harbor
- Culture Research
 - Expanded larval research focusing on quality since survival is good
 - Sustainable feed development
 - Gas supersaturation
 - Raceways are shallow and run on raw water – will use to look at GSS
 - Will try self-cleaning tank in Carlsbad
 - Previous trials with different species including White Seabass were done in Mission Bay
 - Tag retention studies
 - External ecological studies – providing surplus eggs to support research (climate change, ocean acidification, etc.)

Discussion about broodstock husbandry and nutrition

Discussion about broodstock collection and associated problems (i.e. transportation to net pens, space to hold shorts until they reach maturity, etc.)

Field surveys (Mike Shane):

- Gillnet surveys
 - 12 tagged fish were collected in juvenile gillnet surveys
 - Genetic samples and otoliths of hatchery fish are archived
 - Wild caught otoliths are archived, but not fin clips
- Fishery Dependent Data
 - 1,760 fish were scanned from the commercial market
 - 2,167 fish scanned from commercial and recreational markets combined
 - NO TAGS were recovered in fishery sampling in 2017
- Working on formula to convert from Fork Length to Total Length
- Long-term tag retention study
 - Manufacturer had no information - they were confident that once implanted, the tags would stay indefinitely
 - In 2001, a longer term study of 1 year was done at the hatchery
- HSWRI has initiated two new studies:
 - Newport Bay – 200 fish tagged
 - Will check for tag retention every 4 months for 3 years
 - Stable isotopes (chemical markers)
 - Cultured fish have different compositions of stable isotopes
 - Working with Mexico and looking at stable isotopes in different populations along the coast in California and Mexico

- Carbon and oxygen levels in hatchery fish are unique

Discussion about using tags versus DNA sequencing (parentage)

Pathology (Mark Okihiro):

- Few outbreaks of disease in 2017
 - Channel Islands Harbor
 - Parasitic copepods
 - 1,000 fish lost
 - Treatment with H₂O₂
 - Marina del Rey
 - Cryptocarrion outbreak in late June/early July
 - Treatment with H₂O₂
 - Outbreak was caught earlier so majority of fish were released after treatment
 - Possibly related to warm water over the past 3 years
 - If trend continues, there will be more occurrences of diseases we haven't seen
 - Crypto is common in ornamental fish in Hawaii
 - Hasn't been an issue except once previously to the past couple of years

Discussion about treating effluent from the hatchery

Department update (Valerie Taylor):

- Gill net survey contract ending next year

MOTION: Mike McCorkle made a motion to renew the contract for gill net survey for 2017/2018. John Riordan seconds the motion.

The motion was approved and the motion carries.

- Valerie will start working on the contract

Discussion about commercial OREHP stamp and enforcement. Per Assistant Chief Mike Stefanak, validation of a commercial OREHP stamp is routinely verified during at sea inspections.

- Final copy of the evaluation is due December 15 and will be released to the public in January 2018

Discussion about when/how evaluation will be released to the public, townhall meetings, and presentation to the Fish and Game Commission.

Next meeting will be in April 2018 at the Los Alamitos office

