



Statewide Hatchery Assessment and Plan

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting

March 10, 2022



COLORADO
Department of
Natural Resources





Phase 1

CPW Phase 1: Fisheries Management and Coldwater Stocking System Review

Findings and Recommendations

- Overall CPW's fisheries management and policies are sound, with no major modifications required
- Consistent with most western states, CPW does not stock often on top of natural recruitment (wild produced fish)
- Increase frequency of creel surveys and population assessments, to improve program evaluation, and to evaluate cost:benefit and recreation day relationships
- Development of the Whirling Disease resistant strain (Hofer) is an important program to reduce ongoing vulnerability to this pathogen.

CPW Phase 1: Fisheries Management and Coldwater Stocking System Review

Findings and Recommendations

- Consistent with other western states, Colorado places high priority on management of native species.
- CPW can partner with social scientists to better understand the changing angling community in CO, and consider appropriate shifts in management programs to recruit new anglers to the State's trout fisheries.





Phase 2

Summary of Phase 2: Statewide Report

- Identified "*Important Mission Critical Elements*" and "*Essential Maintenance and Improvements*"
- Developed *approximate, relative* opinions of probable cost for general comparison purposes
- Total costs (2020 dollars) for individual facilities can range from \$50K to \$20M



Maintenance Concerns – Building Conditions



Maintenance Concerns – Rearing Vessels



Water Supply and System Complexities

- Many sites have abundant surface water supply sources but with various quality concerns
- System complexities
- Shift from surface water supply to spring and well systems mainly due to WD



Water Supply Quality

Example: Chalk Cliffs

- High suspended sediment
- Temperature swings
- WD positive



Risk of Contamination

Example: Crystal River

- Spring susceptible to contamination by livestock





Phase 3

Mt. Shavano selected as first facility to modernize



What is Modernization?

- Investment protection
- Improve overall **system efficiency** and useable life (energy and water)
 - Most modern technology may not be the best solution
- Opportunity to **improve biosecurity**
- Improve **workplace safety**
- Potential for **renewable energy**
- Maintain production during construction



Example Modernizations



Embden State Fish Hatchery



Wells Dam Hatchery



Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery



QUESTIONS?