

CENTRAL FILE

REPORT TO COMMITTEE FOR ATLANTIC STEELHEAD TROUT

NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

by

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Steelhead trout have been maintained in three, 250 gallon tanks for six and seven weeks. The temperature has risen during this period from 10°C to 15°C. At the beginning of May the temperature was 11.5°C (see Table 1).

At 32 and 27 days after smoltification the fish were weighed. The 32 day fish weighed an average of 62 gm and the 27 day fish weighed 48 gm. The average weight gain being a little more than 1 gm/day over this period. The fish initially were about 20 gm upon smoltification.

The amount of food consumed per day per fish was on the average 3.5-3.8 gm. After May 4th greater emphasis was put on feeding squid and shrimp, and the pelleted food was eliminated from the diet (see Table 2).

A total of seven fish was found moribund during the month of May. All these fish died from asphyxiation (jumped out of the tanks). An autopsy was performed on two of the fish. Of the two, one showed some evidence of myxobacteria in the gills (see autopsy report). To date, there are 59 fish total in three tanks.

Table 2. Food consumed by fish from April 10 to May 26*.

Days Post Smoltification	Shrimp	Trout Chow	Prawns	Squid	Total Weight of Food	Gm/Day/Fish	Percent Body Weight of Food Consumed Per Day
32	595	803	155	747	2300	3.5	6
27	550	620.5	145	747	2062.5	3.8	4

*Weight in grams