### Don Clausen – Warm Springs Fish Hatchery

(Presenters: Ben White USACE and Darrick Muir CDFW)







- Located at the base of Lake Sonoma
- Owned and funded by the US Army Corps of Engineers
- Two fish hatchery programs:
  - RR Coho Salmon Broodstock Program
  - RR Steelhead Program
- Coho Program operated by USACE (Recovery Program)
- Steelhead Program operated by CDFW (Harvest Program)





### Russian River Coho Salmon Broodstock Program

• Juvenile Coho salmon are collected from multiple Russian River tributaries each year to be used as broodstock



 Offspring are released as juveniles into historical Coho streams within the lower Russian River watershed



Broodstock are raised to maturity and spawned according to a genetics breeding matrix



Coho Program: Lessons Learned and Actions Taken During the Drought of 2021





• Water is supplied from Lake Sonoma and typically ranges from 52-58°F yearround

- In 2021, water temp. reached 62°F by late July
- This resulted in an increase in pathogens and a decrease in juvenile production
- As a contingency plan, a portion of the broodstock were transferred to the hatchery at Casa Grande High School in Petaluma.

• BIG THANKS to the United Anglers of Casa Grande HS, Jackson Family Wines, and Sonoma Water for supporting this effort!!

#### Russian River Coho and Steelhead Program: What to expect in 2022...

- USACE will conduct unprecedented gate changes from Warm Springs Dam to tap into the cold-water pool at the bottom of Lake Sonoma
- Continued monitoring of hatchery water temperature and fish health
- Plenty of fish rescues and fish relocations into better stream habitat and the hatchery
- Contingency plans for all juvenile releases to maximize instream survival and out-migration



## Russian River Steelhead Program

- Warm Springs Hatchery has been in service since 1982
  - Rears 300,000 yearling steelhead
  - Expected yearly return of 3,000 Adults
- Coyote Valley Fish Facility has been in service since 1991
  - Rears 200,000 yearling steelhead
  - Expected yearly return of 2,000 Adults



# 2022 WSH Year at a Glance





Warm Springs Green Egg Take Brood Year 2022



# 2022 CVFF Year at a Glance



Coyote Valley Green Egg Take Brood Year 2022



### Future Program Management

- Steelhead Hatchery Genetic Management Plan Implementation
- Increase the genetic diversity within the hatchery stock
- Increase incorporation of natural origin broodstock into the spawning practices
- Decrease Rearing Densities